

# Signs of the Times

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The "Unknown Soldier," being carried to his last resting place in Arlington Cemetery. The service, which was held on Armistice Day, was of a most impressive nature. Notables from all the leading nations were present.

International

## IS THE BIBLE OUT OF DATE?

By

ROBERT B. THURBER

**T**HE good old Book! why are men so intent on tampering with it? Revising it, shortening it, vivisectioning it, are the religio-scientific fads of the times. It needs to be purified, says one; simplified, says another; higher criticized, says a third. According to its benevolent detractors, it is out of date, unscientific, unreliable, inaccurate, inconsistent. It is time, say they, to salvage the best that is in it, to add what wisdom the world has accumulated since it was written, and of the combination to make an up-to-the-minute bible better suited to the needs of the present day.

It is surprising—did we not know why—that the Word of God stands firm in the face of the destroying mob. It is remarkably tenacious of life in view of the many attempts at its annihilation and of constantly recurring reports of its death and burial. Men of the literary fame of H. G. Wells and Frank Crane put forth glibly and confidently the assumed fact that the world is long past the form of thought and moral teaching of the Bible. We are compelled to admit that in many respects this is true, and largely through the influence of such men as these; but to its sorrow and woe, nevertheless. It is not to our credit but to our shame.

One can scarcely pick up a metropolitan newspaper or a magazine devoted to the latest findings of scientific thought without stumbling upon some direct or indirect reference to

making over the Bible. And it is significant of something queer that when science—which is always changing its conclusions—finds something new, it demands that the Bible—which

never changes—shall be revised to conform to it. Here is a case in point: A headline of the New York Times reads:

**Chemists Predict Startling New Era;  
Sun's Rays, Earth's Rotation,  
and Atomic Energy in Matter to Be Used.  
See Revising of Bible.**

And the following is from the body of the article: "The Bible must be revised to meet the undreamed-of accomplishments of science," Dr. Charles Baskerville, Laboratory Director of the College of the City of New York, told the chemists during the meeting, which was held in the great hall of the city college.

"Many of the miracles of the New Testament are everyday acts of master surgeons to-day," Dr. Baskerville said. "All these things—their correlations, their permutations, their coördinations, adjustments, and applications—have brought the individual into touch or into communication with all other individuals of our world. Thus science has made history at overwhelming speed. In it all man acquired quite naturally a growing smugness of material omniscience. The pulpit has sought to harmonize what it did not understand with phraseology fifteen or more centuries old."

(Continued on page 11)



# The Signs of the Times for 1922 ANNOUNCEMENT



An article you cannot afford to miss is "Eastern Asia, the International Danger Point," by Roy F. Cottrell.



We are confident in promising our readers an unusually strong program for 1922. This is not dependent on a few men in any one place, but upon a corps of several hundred men and women who are active in Christian service and in touch with current affairs and with the needs of humanity the world around.

**The World's Great Problems.** The SIGNS will cover current world questions as they arise,—political, social, and religious,—ever bringing to bear the scriptures which throw light upon these questions.

An article just in hand from Roy F. Cottrell, a deep student of affairs in China, may be given as an illustration. This, entitled "Eastern Asia, the International Danger Point," brings information of unusual value at this time when China's relation to world peace is a vital question.

**European Affairs.** A series of articles on European affairs, by Louis H. Christian, will give our readers the latest first-hand information as to progress and significant changes over there.

"A League of Religions" is the title of a series of eight articles by Elmer L. Cardey. These will show something of present movements for religious power which could easily lead to religious legislation and domination.

Throughout the year, subjects of national and international importance will be considered by various able writers.

**Bible Study and Service.** To be of still greater service in the reading and study of the Bible, we will open a "Bible Service Section" in which will be answered questions on spiritual topics that are in the minds of thinking people everywhere. In this section there will also be given a series of simple studies on various Bible subjects, arranged in a progressive form. These features will foster a familiarity with the Scriptures, and assist one in gaining longed-for knowledge and spiritual strength.

**Devotional.** Another new feature that will be introduced from time to time is a page given to brief expositions of favorite texts, texts from which can be drawn practical lessons bearing on everyday Christianity.

And we have in prospect more material than ever of a devotional nature. Mrs. Matilda E. Andross has furnished a group of such short articles in story form. They are the kind that bring Christ near in the daily experiences, and teach lessons of faith and trust.

**A New Serial.** "The Circuit Rider" is the title of one serial story which has been accepted and which will be published early in 1922. It is by Mrs. Ruth Lees Olson.

In "Cozy Nook" at the edge of a Western city, lived Grandmother Graham, a saintly old Scotch lady, and her granddaughter, Grace Quimby. The latter a Christian young woman of ability, inspired by reading of the circuit riders in the early days, resolved to take her pony and be a modern circuit rider among the rural homes within reach. Finding a number eager to know more of the Bible and its vital truths, she was soon in the midst of interesting visits which developed into regular studies and earnest

friendly discussions of what is truth. The story pleasantly brings the reader into the circle. It is wonderfully entertaining and instructive. At the close of the day grandmother and Grace go over the "circuit rider's" experiences, thus adding a human touch and interest that is refreshing.

**On Missions.** "World Evangelization" in its various phases furnishes

reports and information as to missionary progress. The very best of these will be given. Four brief articles have just come from William A. Spicer, secretary of the Foreign Mission Board of Seventh-day Adventists, written in remote places to which his travels have taken him. They are: "Missions and Antarctic Exploration," "The Story of the Statue of Belzunce," "Growth of Protestantism in Roumania," and "Christian Education Forging Ahead in Germany."

**Christian Evidences.** One of the most interesting and instructive features for the new year will be a series of letters from a converted Christian son to his infidel father. These are written by

Earle A. Rowell, and are in substance his own personal experience. He covers all the great outstanding arguments for the preëminence of Christianity and the inspiration of the Bible.

**On Health.** There will be frequent articles on health topics and on subjects of vital interest to the home. Five articles written by Dr. George H. Heald, of Washington, D. C., to be published early in 1922 are: "Air-borne Diseases," "How Does Disease Travel?" "Tuberculosis," "The Germ and the Disease," "How to Avoid Germs."

**Signs of Our Times and General Articles.** Current news, significant world happenings, and waves of popular sentiment which are clearly in fulfillment of Bible prophecy, will frequently be mentioned. The best possible articles that we can secure will thoroughly explain these prophecies. Two splendid articles by Chester A. Holt, dealing with modern religion and the reasons for its lack of power, are soon to be published. Horace G. Franks, our correspondent in Australia, writes on "The Results of Modern Atheism," "Shall We Ever Live Forever?" and "The Great Textbook of the Arts,"—three separate unusually interesting articles. Other articles in hand build up confidence in God's Word, as opposed to the popular evolutionary theories. "The Zionist Movement," "The Turkish Question," "Armament and Disarmament," "Commercial Competition," "Capital and Labor," "Increase of Crime," "Clamor for Sunday Laws," "Growth of Spiritism," "Prohibition," and scores of other subjects of interest will be ably presented.

This little glimpse into the program for 1922 can but faintly suggest what you and the friends you may supply or others you may induce to subscribe, will receive. The entire energies of our editorial staff and large corps of able men and women who have been making our two periodicals, the weekly SIGNS OF THE TIMES, and the *Signs Magazine*, are now to be given to the weekly paper. (The magazine is discontinued with the December number of this year.) Every consistent effort possible will be made to maintain a high standard, and to give our readers the real service in its particular field that the times demand. We earnestly solicit your coöperation in greatly increasing the circle of readers of the SIGNS.



Louis H. Christian's series on Europe and Russia will be full of information.



We shall have articles on "The Religions of Heathenism."



William A. Spicer writes interestingly on "Missions and Antarctic Exploration."



# Is Christ Enshrined in Your Heart?

Nineteen hundred years ago when Christ came to this earth, men found no place for Him in their homes or in their hearts. "He came unto His own, and His own received Him not." For this cause the ancient Israelites were rejected by Heaven. Are we following in their footsteps?

NO doubt, in your journeys, you have had the ill fortune to arrive late in the evening at a small town during a country fair or a festival. If you did not have friends or relatives in the town, you probably experienced great difficulty in obtaining a lodging for the night. Doubtless you went from hotel to hotel; rooming houses and apartments you visited, but to no avail. Everything was filled. The situation was anything but pleasant. Finally, late in the night, you decided that you would have to remain in your machine; or if you did not have a machine, you decided to sit in the railway station and wait through the long hours of the night.

A little over nineteen hundred years ago, a man and his wife arrived in a small town and found that every dwelling was filled. There was no fair or festival in progress, but it was the time for the paying of the government tax. They went from inn to inn to find an abiding place. They had no relatives or friends in the town; no carriage or cart was theirs; there was no railway station or public building in which to make their lodging. As a final extremity, they took refuge in a stable.

Under such conditions as these, and in such a place as this, Jesus, the Saviour of men, was born. He was born in a stable; and a manger was His cradle, "because there was no room . . . in the inn." Luke 2:7.

It would be expected that a being such as He who was prophesied of from days of old would have received a fine reception. The Old Testament Scriptures are replete with prophecies concerning the coming of the Messiah. The prophets even foretold the time and the place. Notwithstanding all this, the great men of the land, the philosophers, the rabbis, and the rulers were not prepared to give Him a reception. "He came unto His own, and His own received Him not." John 1:11. They were too much occupied with their own interests to have any concern for their Saviour. The leading men of the land were too busy working to advance their selfish plans to prepare to receive the Son of God. Theological gymnastics, maneuvers for the highest seats at the banquets, and abnormal desire for the praise of men, absorbed the minds of the Jewish leaders.

Consequently Christ was born in obscurity. A few, however, knew of His birth. They were not the great men of the Jewish nation; they were not the élite of society,—they were of the lower stratum of the social formation. Shepherds were they,—men in one of the lowly

By OWEN A. TROY

pursuits of life. An angel of God announced to them, during their nightly vigil, "Unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord." Luke 2:11.

On hearing the glad news, the happy shepherds journeyed to Bethlehem and beheld the Promised One.

## WISE MEN FROM THE EAST

Later, there appeared on the scene men not of the chosen Hebrew race but wise men from the distant east. They had seen a band of angels, which appeared to them as a star. They had been watching for the sign which announced the birth of Jesus, so they followed this star, and it led them to Jerusalem. Naturally they thought that the king and the rulers of the people would know of the birth of Christ. They asked the king concerning His birth; but the king and the nobility knew nothing of it. The din of worldly applause and the clatter of fame had so deafened them that it would have been impossible for them to have heard from an angel the announcement of the birth of the Saviour. The wise men, the Magi, moved on. The star appeared before them again, and guided them to Bethlehem, where it stopped over the abiding place of the Child Jesus.

"They came into the house and saw the young Child with Mary His mother; and they fell down and worshiped Him; and

opening their treasures they offered unto Him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh." Matthew 2:11, A. R. V. Like the shepherds, they worshiped Jesus; unlike the doctors and the leading men of the Jewish nation, they brought their gifts to Jesus. These men, gentiles, or heathen, as the Jews termed them, found Christ and worshiped Him, while the great men of the nation—the supposedly chosen people of God—did not even so much as look for Him. The nobility and the society leaders did not seek for Christ, but the gentiles and the common people received Him gladly.

## THE LEARNED REJECTED CHRIST

Thus it was throughout the entire earthly ministry of Christ. The Pharisees, the scribes, and the doctors of the law rejected Him. Jesus, who came to save them, they renounced and crucified. His earnest pleas for them to repent went unheeded. His talks did not contain the fine-spun and complicated dogmas that the theologians of the time used in their discourses. He did not uphold the "new thought" teaching of the times; therefore they rejected Him. He gave the gospel in its simplicity. Every one could understand His teaching. Although the rulers and the social leaders did not welcome Him, the "common people heard Him gladly."

With but few exceptions, it has ever been thus. The learned men, the men of the so-called higher walks of life and the men who stand on the apex of intellectuality, so far as scholastic attainments are concerned, have not been those who have welcomed Christ and followed Him. The common people are the ones who have followed Him.

When the Lord chooses a man to do a work for Him, He chooses one whom He can lead. He chooses men who take time to hear His Word,—men who have room in their hearts for Him.

King Henry IV asked the Duke of Alva, on a certain occasion, if he had seen the eclipses that had recently occurred. The duke replied: "No, I have had so much business on the earth that I have had no time to look up into the heavens." Are you too busy with earthly things to lift your eyes to heaven? Are your temporal affairs too numerous to allow your mind to dwell upon the things of God? Let it not be said that there is no room in the inn of your heart for Jesus. He stands at the door of each heart and knocks, and promises that if we open to Him, He will come in and dwell with us. Only as Christ dwells within us, are we living a true Christian life.

## Glad Tidings to All Men

By B. F. M. SOURS

*The night is dark upon Judean hills.  
Shepherds, night weary, there among  
their sheep,  
Do in the darkness the night watches keep,  
The while the dew upon the sward distills.  
Hark! Hark! Behold, a heavenly vision  
thrills!  
Oh, burst of radiant glory! Lo, the sweep  
Of hosts angelic! All the world's asleep!  
Is it the coming judgment?—Terror fills!  
Hark! What?—"Fear not!" What  
message from above!  
"Good tidings" and "great joy," O  
weary hearts,  
"To all!" 'Tis ours—"a Saviour"—  
Israel!  
The heavens burst with God's eternal love!  
Joy! joy in Bethlehem's manger! Fear  
departs.  
The shepherds haste the happy news to  
tell.*



# What Events Will Precede Christ's Coming?

*Have you formed in your mind the impression that the world will gradually be won to Christ, and then the end will come? This article sets forth clearly the Bible statements regarding this great event.*

By PHIL. C. HAYWARD



A THOUSAND years without war! A thousand years of peace and righteousness upon the earth, and then King Jesus will come and take the reins of government! This is the program mapped out for the second coming of Christ by a large and rapidly growing class to-day. In other words: Man will first prepare a kingdom for Christ, then Christ will come to receive the kingdom. And Satan cares but little how many may accept the theory of the second coming of the Lord, so long as that coming does not assume the aspect of a definite, personal, and imminent event. Indeed, the theory of the second advent is quite generally accepted in most religious circles; but with this theory, we find every conceivable form of philosophy as to the manner, purpose, and time of that event.

Some conceive of Christ as coming in the tense stillness of the death chamber, while others anticipate His coming at the joyous hour of conversion. One class profess to see the fulfillment of the advent promises in the legerdmain of the spirit medium, while others feel they have found the realization of "that blessed hope" in the sophism of Mrs. Eddy's philosophies. And there are great multitudes who are taught that the reign of Christ will be established through national governments and Christian laws, and that after a millennium of this experimentation, the earth will be prepared to receive her King.

## A KEY TO THE WORLD SITUATION

But what says the Bible? Are we left to idle speculation as to the time, the purpose, and the manner of the Master's appearing?—We certainly are not; for Christ declared, in the plainest possible terms, that when certain conditions obtained upon the earth, we might know that His coming was near, "even at the doors." And He added, "This generation"—the one which witnesses these conditions of which He spoke—"shall not pass, till all these things be fulfilled."

Prominent among the conditions pointed out as marking the nearness of the advent is "distress of nations, with perplexity." Luke 21:25. This, the

Master said, would be very marked and prevalent upon the earth when His coming was imminent. Never has such a state of uncertainty and fearful foreboding prevailed before. In the past, individual nations have been perplexed, groups of nations have trembled in insecurity; but history does not reveal another time like the present, when in all the great family of nations, there cannot be found one, whether small or large, that is not tense with the distress and perplexity of conditions both internal and international. Such a condition is unprecedented; and unless the Lord shall smooth out the tangled skein by removing the disturbing elements, which are beyond remedy by human hand, the coming millennium promises to be anything but a foretaste of Paradise. And that is just what He promises to do.

"He will come in flames of fire to take vengeance on those who have no knowledge of God, and who do not obey the good news of Jesus our Lord. They will pay the penalty of eternal destruction, being banished from the presence of the Lord and from His glorious majesty, when He comes on that day." 2 Thessalonians 1:7-10, Weymouth's translation.

## CONTRARY TO PAUL'S WORDS

There is no place in the prophecies of the Scriptures for a thousand years of peace and security upon this old earth in its present condition. On the contrary, we read of "men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth." And the apostle Paul writes: "Of this be assured: In the last days grievous times will set in. For men shall be lovers of self, lovers of money, boastful, haughty, profane. . . . They will have no self-control, but will be brutal, opposed to goodness, treacherous, headstrong, self-important. They will love pleasure instead of loving God, and will keep up a make-believe of piety and yet live in defiance of its power." 2 Timothy 3:1-5, Weymouth's translation.

Comment is unnecessary. The most casual survey discovers every specification of the prophecy fully realized before

our eyes. And by these tokens, we are assured of the relief soon to come through the appearance of our Lord from heaven. There can be no mistaking the conditions nor the event they portend. The universal crime wave, the growing callousness of man to all the claims of God, the social, industrial, and national unrest, could scarcely be more pronounced this side of the gulf of chaos. And these are the conditions which, according to Scripture, usher in the second coming of Christ. There is no possibility of a millennium of peace upon the earth with the wicked in existence and without Christ's intervention. All such visions are vain.

Another condition so pronounced as to stand out in bold relief against the background of earth's storms of perplexity, is the intense missionary activities of this day. The passion for evangelizing the world in this generation has taken hold of every truly evangelical organization, and the accomplishment of the task is in sight. This also is significant. Speaking of this movement, Jesus said, "This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come." Matthew 24:14. Practically every outgoing ship carries with it either agents or agencies for spreading the good news among those who sit in darkness; and as we see the accomplishment of the great commission daily coming nearer to realization, our longing eyes brighten in anticipation of the coming Christ.

## THE CHURCH INCORPORATING ERROR

In this connection, we cannot lose sight of the fact that heavenly agencies are coöperating with man to extend the divinely inspired message of the coming Saviour. In the fourteenth chapter of Revelation, verses 6, 7, we read of an angel flying "in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people, saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to Him; for the hour of His judgment is come: and worship Him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters." This, it will be noticed, is to be when the hour of God's judgment is come. And as we realize that to-day, in practically every principal language and dialect, the people of earth are being called from heathenism to the worship of the one true God, we know, by this very thing, that we are in the hour of God's judgment, and that the coming of the Master draws nigh.

But the universal proclamation of the gospel message does not stand alone. In the older Christian lands, wrongs are to be righted, and abuses corrected. The church must make herself ready by putting away every corruption and false doctrine. So we continue to read, "And there followed another angel, saying, Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication." Revelation 14:8. To a large extent, the church and the world to-day walk hand in hand. More and more the church is putting herself into competition with the dance hall and the theater. Culture is substituted for conversion, pleasure for prayer, and a make-believe of piety becomes the magic card of church



membership. Largely, I say, but, thank God, not universally, this condition prevails; and so great is this menace of worldliness, that another mighty angel adds his message, crying with a loud voice, "Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird." Revelation 18:1, 2.

How the church in the older Christian countries is becoming "the habitation of devils" in this day is shown in 1 Timothy 4:1, 2: "Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; speaking lies in hypocrisy."

The engulfing wave of spiritism which is flooding the world to-day, and producing a harvest of gold for every spirit medium, is the "doctrines of devils." No one has ever communicated with a dead friend, for the Bible declares, "The dead know not anything." Ecclesiastes 9:4-6, 10. We know that these so-called communications are the "doctrines of devils," because, purporting to come from our dead friends, they lie, and the devil "is a liar, and the father of it." John 8:44. Everywhere the Scriptures warn against consulting familiar spirits, and the practice of mediumship; but under the guise of Christianity, lies, spoken "in hypocrisy," and purporting to come from dead friends or martyred soldiers, are flooding the world with confusion, and threatening the very foundations of Zion. And let us not fail to note that these things are conditions which were foretold in prophecy as being very marked "in the latter times," when, under divine leadership, the gospel of the kingdom is being carried to all the world. Both of these conditions are very pronounced in this very time; and by these tokens, we know that the coming of the Lord cannot be put off to the indefinite future, but that it is now very near.

#### REJECTION OF THE DECALOGUE A SIGN OF THE TIMES

Nor is this all. Still deeper principles are involved in the preparation of the church for the second coming of Jesus Christ. In general practice, the church has been led, unwittingly, perhaps, into serious violation of God's sacred law. The Sabbath of the fourth commandment is trampled underfoot, and a rival institution, with a vastly different significance, is enthroned in its stead. There is evidence that this is abhorrent in God's sight; and in the severest language found in all the Bible, He warns the church, and every individual, against the continuance of this practice. The proclamation of this message, added to the two which we have already considered, is said to call out a people who "keep the commandments of God." Revelation 14:9-16.

Still some will ask: Why need we be so particular? Why is not one day as good as another, so long as we keep one day in every seven? The custom of the church is to observe the first day of the week as the Christian sabbath; and why must this question be agitated to the disturbance of the minds of the people?

As a measurement of time, a twenty-four-hour period, intrinsically one day is as good as another; but if the Sabbath institution stands for anything, God ex-

pects that our observance of that institution should be an expression of that for which it stands, and for which He originally designed it. To illustrate: In the United States of America, we have a glorious flag. Its graceful folds, with their gleaming colors, may be composed of silk, or cotton, or wool. The flag may be torn, faded, and soiled. It possesses no particular intrinsic value more than other pieces of the same material might. But we love that flag, and our lives are laid as a willing sacrifice upon the altar of its necessities, because it stands for home, honor, and liberty. Many aliens have sought its shelter; but some of them, sad to say, have never learned to appreciate the principles for which it stands. Chiefly by the activities of these newcomers, have been fostered the ideals of various radical and lawless elements that trouble the nation to-day. To them the Stars and Stripes means nothing, and another flag, a red one, has been raised to represent their ideals. May I ask, Can a person show his loyalty to the United States of America by piously waving the red flag of anarchy? Your answer is a quick and emphatic No.

But why not? Is not the material of which one is composed identical with the other, being silk, or cotton, or wool? And does not each represent an ideal?—Yes; but one represents an ideal vastly *different* from that represented by the other. And in this country, no argument as to which ideal and which flag we shall accept is tolerable.

So it is with the Sabbath of the fourth commandment. It represents Christ in creation. It represents Christ in salvation. It stands for law and order and stable institutions. Its adherents magnify the law of God, and express their loyalty to the government of heaven, by rendering strict obedience to all its laws. Opposed to this is the doctrine so ardently advocated by many, that in Christ the law is abolished, and to acknowledge its binding claims is slavery. The church, it is claimed, has authority to change the precepts of the law by its own customs

and practices; and a universal custom is declared to be sufficient warrant for continued violation of a specific statute.

#### CHURCH MAKES THE CLAIM

The Roman Catholic Church is the originator of this theory. Its claim to have abolished the Sabbath of the fourth commandment and to have substituted the observance of Sunday in its stead, has never been successfully challenged. And the conclusion to which all who will study this question without bias must come is, perhaps, best expressed in the words of the Rev. John G. Shea, in the *American Catholic Quarterly Review*. He says: "Sunday as a day of the week set apart for the obligatory worship of Almighty God is purely a creation of the Catholic Church."

So this is the question at issue to-day, as God said it would be. The commandment says, "The seventh day is the Sabbath." The prophecy says that in the last days there must be a calling out of those who will keep the commandments of God, all of them. This question is agitating the Christian world at the present time as never before. And the agitation of this question is among the most prominent signs that the coming of the Lord is near. That event cannot be put off for another generation, because the generation that is now making its decision upon this fundamental question is the generation that is to witness the second advent of Jesus Christ; for we read:

"Here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus. . . . And I looked, and behold a white cloud, and upon the cloud one sat like unto the Son of man. . . . And He that sat on the cloud thrust in His sickle on the earth; and the earth was reaped."

The generation that makes its decision on this question of the commandments of God must be the last generation, for that is the last decision to be made in the age-old conflict between Christ and Satan. And when this great gospel message shall have fully gone to the world, as it is

(Continued on page 12)



Bloody scenes such as this have been enacted over the whole civilized world during the last few years. And the future holds for us only more wars. Surely such conditions give the lie to the claim that the world is gradually getting better.



# DO YOU WORK FOR WAGES?

Those who serve God faithfully do not receive wages. They receive the gift of God, which is eternal life. Those who work for the devil receive wages, and "the wages of sin is death."

By

GEORGE W. WELLS

AN interesting story is told in the Bible of a young ruler who came to the Master and asked, "What shall I do?" He turned away with a sorrowful spirit because the Lord replied, "Go and sell that thou hast, and give to the poor, . . . and come and follow Me." With characteristic impulsiveness, Peter approached Jesus and said, with a touch of vanity and an air of self-worthiness, "Behold, we have forsaken all, and followed Thee; what shall we have therefore?" The Lord saw in these two incidents a good opportunity to enunciate the great principles of the kingdom of heaven, and gave us the parable of the laborers in the vineyard, which reveals the truth that the reward is not of debt but of grace.

The two inquirers had mistaken the nature of the kingdom. The young synagogue official supposed that there was something which he could do to merit eternal life, as though everlasting life could be secured by some act of ostentatious devotion. Peter made a blunder in another direction. He ventured to inquire what he and the other disciples should have as a reward for their self-abnegation. The Lord carefully emphasizes the great fact that the kingdom of heaven is not entered by doing or having, but by believing—by faith.

## CHRIST AGAIN ANSWERS QUESTION

On another occasion, when asked, "What shall we do, that we might work the works of God?" Jesus answered, "This is the work of God, that ye believe on Him whom He hath sent." It is evident that Paul caught the true meaning when he wrote, "Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ." The glorious Bible truth flashed upon Luther when ascending the steps on his knees he suddenly arose to his feet and cried out, "The just shall live by faith!" The important lesson is that it is not what a man does or has that awards him heaven, but what he believes; "being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus." Romans 3:24.

Jesus desired to reveal to the young ruler that a lover of self is a transgressor of the law. In the test the Lord gave him, the plague spot of his character was made manifest; he desired no further enlightenment, but went away sorrowful. The world was his god. He professed to keep the commandments of God, but he was destitute of the very principle which is the spirit and life of them all. He did not possess true love for God or man. He lacked saving faith in Jesus Christ; loving himself and worldly gain, he was out of harmony with the principles of heaven. In Peter's question, "What shall we have there-

fore?" was revealed a spirit which, if uncorrected, would disqualify the disciple for doing the work of God, for it was the spirit of a hireling. With this conception, he would work with the thought of meriting a reward in proportion to his labor. Christ related to the disciples the parable illustrating the manner in which God deals with His servants and the spirit in which He desires them to labor for Him. Faith is the portal to the kingdom, while work is the occupation of the citizens of the kingdom.

## GIFTS RATHER THAN WAGES

In Christ's kingdom on earth, while there are wages, there must also be gifts; and while there is justice, there must be bounties. The Lord's mission was to uplift humanity by imparting divinity. The young ruler heard Christ say, "Give to the poor, . . . and come and follow Me." Christ ever and always linked Himself with depressed and needy humanity. In God's government we are familiar with His use of wages and gifts. Sin pays wages, but God offers gifts. Man's sins are paid for with death, and if man simply received wages, it would be some temporal reward; but God goes far beyond man's earning power and not only

gives him wages, but adds the gift of eternal life. If we are faithful in a "few things," God will trust us to rule "many things" and admit us into the joy of the Lord.

In the parable the laborers agreed to work for a stipulated sum, and they received the amount specified. They were to believe the master's promise, "Whatsoever is right, that shall ye receive." They were rewarded, not according to the amount or time of their labor, but according to the generosity of his purpose.

God desires us to trust Him who justifies the ungodly. His reward is given not according to our work or merit, but "according to the eternal purpose which He purposed in Christ Jesus our Lord." Ephesians 3:11. "Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us." Titus 3:5. For those who trust in Him, He will do "exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think." Ephesians 3:20.

## THE CURSE OF THE CHURCH

The weakness, deception, and curse of the church to-day is the spirit of self-righteousness. Men think they can do something toward earning a place in the kingdom of heaven. They imagine that when they make certain advancement, the Lord will come in and help them. We fail to recognize that our great need is our only claim on God's mercy. We have nothing and can do nothing that will recommend us to God; but the plea that we may urge now and ever is our utterly helpless condition. Renouncing all self-dependence, we may look to the cross of Calvary and say,—

"In my hand no price I bring;  
Simply to Thy cross I cling."

Heaven's golden gate opens not to the self-righteous or self-exalted, it is not lifted up to the proud in spirit; but the everlasting portals will open wide to the trembling touch of faith. Blessed will be the recompense of grace to all those who have wrought for God in the simplicity of faith.

TRUTH telling and covenant keeping are the essential bonds which preserve human society. Because one nation regarded as "a scrap of paper" its solemn treaty with another nation, the world was deluged with blood and is to-day beggared, distracted, and torn. When one lightly esteems his own word of promise, he will not long see any value in the word of another—not even in the promises of God. But to every one who honors and fulfills his own promises—"though he to his loss has sworn"—the promises of God are all yea and amen. To such a one God's words are more precious than silver or gold.—*Christian Statesman.*

## Sayings Worth Remembering

"Worry is a daily manifestation of the sin of distrust."

"Abundant life is not a different kind of life: it's simply a matter of supply. It is an abundance of the same kind of life that every Christian has. And anything less than that abundance is sin."

"There are not two kinds of Christianity; but there are two kinds of Christians: those who do, and those who do not, take the provisions that God has made."

"Get your Bible and study the 'What, know ye nots' of the Bible, and see what you don't know!"

"In the new covenant, God does not say, 'If ye will obey Me,' but 'If ye will trust Me.'"

"The Holy Spirit who is in us is not like the Spirit that was in Jesus: He is God Himself, the same Spirit that was in Jesus."

"Baxter said, 'Slay sin, or it will slay you.'"

"Do I believe in perfection?—Yes, absolute perfection: a perfect provision in a perfect Saviour."

"There isn't a son of God living anywhere on the earth who can live content in sin. It can't be done. If a person is living content in sin, he needs to be born again."

—*Sunday School Times.*



## Do You Live on Stimulants?

We cannot consistently deny the addict his alcohol because of the harm to him from its use, while we ply ourselves with a dozen other beverages containing a drug that is almost if not quite as harmful,—stimulants that, like alcohol, increase to-day's output of energy by borrowing from to-morrow's store, and with no hope of return.

By ARTHUR N. DONALDSON, M. D.

WE have eliminated alcohol as a beverage because the drug was an aggressive enemy of health. Alcoholism, alcohol-caused diseases, germ diseases favored by a lowered bodily resistance due to alcohol,—these preventable conditions, presenting mortality statistics running into the thousands each year, caused us to think. The tremendous loss by death, the alarming increase in degenerative diseases, the problem of eugenics in the face of this decadence, the startling economic waste resulting from senile changes that are fast entering the younger age periods,—these things awakened us.

We noted the physical injury, and we saw in it enough to demand action. But we noted with still greater concern the weakening effect upon the will; the mind, the channel through which God communicates with the individual, unsound; the nervous system shattered; a man, made in the image of God, reduced to an irresponsible state, a victim of his own weakness, a lottery to himself, and a source of danger to others. Faced by facts, aroused by the exigencies of the hour,—the absolute war-time need of moral, mental, and physical soundness,—we acted. We chose abstinence. *But are we who made prohibition a reality, consistent in our total abstinence ideals?* Is America a consistent teetotaler?

### THE LURE OF WHISKY DRINKING

America used alcoholic beverages because these beverages furnished a stimulant. The drinker did not pay his money for a swallow of whisky because of the food value contained in it, the nourishment derived from it. He did not seek it because of its agreeable taste. He wanted the feeling of warmth, exhilaration, and vigor that followed its ingestion. In cold weather, it gave him a feeling of warmth; under the midsummer sun it afforded respite from the oppressive heat; on blue days, it cheered; in pain, it brought relief; in fatigue, it quickened the tired brain and the lagging muscles. Alcohol brought one thing to the individual—a feeling of happiness. Scientific investigation has taught us that the basis for that pleasure was indeed spurious. It was wrong, it was dangerous, we were agreed, and we stopped it.

But there are other drugs that bring the same result—drugs that help us to roll off dull care, to forget the stolid realities; drugs that efface the warning of abuse which pain impresses; that stir the weary nerve cell to put forth borrowed energy, and block the cry of weary

muscles. They bring a sense of vim and added capacity—a delight indeed to the man whose mind and body would seek repose. They are stimulants; and a stimulant is harmful just in proportion to the sense of relief, of pleasure, or of freedom it affords.

### ARE WE CONSISTENT IN OUR TEMPERANCE WORK?

We cannot consistently deny the addict his alcohol because of the harm to him from its use, while we ply ourselves with a dozen other beverages containing a drug that is almost if not quite as harmful,—stimulants which, like alcohol, increase to-day's output of energy by borrowing from to-morrow's store, and with no hope of return. There is not a stimulating beverage in use but owes its popularity to a principle which is morally wrong. Dr. David Starr Jordan states it aptly: "*The basis of intemperance is to secure through drugs the feeling of happiness when happiness does not exist.*" For what other purpose do we drink them? Do we drink coffee for the nourishment it contains?—No! It is not a food. We get the idea that it is a food, because a cup of the beverage seems to impart strength when we feel ambitionless and lethargic. It gives us an unmistakable "punch;" and this quality, and this alone, is responsible for its popularity.

Let us note another statement from Dr. Jordan's pen: "One and all, these various drugs [coffee, tea, alcohol, cocaine, opium] tend to give the impression of a power, or a pleasure, or an activity which we do not possess. One and all, their function is to force the nervous system to lie. One and all, the result of their habitual use is to render the nervous system incapable of ever telling the truth. Each of them, if used to excess, brings, in time, insanity, incapability, and death. With each of them, the first use makes the second easier. To yield to temptation makes it easier to yield again. The weakening effect on the will is greater than the injury to the body." Dr. Jordan is speaking of the drug to which you may be addicted,—yes, addicted,—when he speaks to the coffee and tea toper, the "coca cola" fiend. In spite of your convictions to the contrary, you may be a drug addict. If you do not believe it, just try leaving off your coffee for a day, and note how miserable you are without it. *The basis for your use of your favorite beverage is the same as that upon which the alcoholic built.*

America is using more coffee to-day

than ever before, in spite of the fact that it costs the consumer three times as much as it did a few months ago. We averaged about ten pounds per capita from 1912 to 1919. The per-capita consumption during 1919 is estimated at fully twelve pounds. More than half of the world's coffee crop is consumed in the United States. Coffee seems to be helping to fill the void made by prohibition. This is possible. Caffeine belongs to the same order of drugs. One authority says, "We have at last arrived at the truth that caffeine is nothing more or less than a strong stimulant, and when taken in large quantities, a poison like brandy." Indeed, in the opinion of many careful English observers, tea is causing far more harm to the people of Great Britain than beer. Yet with us, tea is a temperance drink, beer taboo.

Without question, we do live under an abnormal strain, the strain incumbent on a complex civilization. Some men claim that a stimulant is consequently an essential part of the daily program, in order to keep brain and body up to the acme. The theory is absolutely wrong. We see its outworkings in the fast-mounting statistics for degenerative diseases. Premature decay stamps the bodies of men on every hand. They are men who are running on borrowed capital; men who are "vimmed" by caffeine, theine, nicotine, and too much protein food. *It is a sad commentary on our boasted advancement that we can accomplish our ends only through the aid of stimulants.*

### WE CAN DO NOTHING WITHOUT STIMULANTS

The body is made up of cells, differentiated according to function. The life manifestations of the body as a whole are dependent upon the activities of these individual units. The cell has been likened to a storage battery. A storage battery must be charged before it can discharge. So the cell. These body cells, when well stored with energy, give evidence of their charge by a feeling of well-being and fitness. Hard work is play; lethargy and depression are unknown to the rested cell. A well-cared-for cell will do its part in successfully mastering the exigencies of a trying age. Attention to personal hygiene is all that is needed.

But in the crush, we grow careless, the cells run down, and immediately we feel unfit. What is the first thought under such conditions?—*Stimulation*. In spite of its depletion, the cell is driven to put forth its customary effort. If we attempt to use a run-down storage battery, we shall injure it permanently. The same is true of the human cell.

Intemperance is morally wrong; it is economically unwise. Whether it is alcoholic intemperance or caffeine intemperance, it leads to the same end,—mental, moral, and physical unsoundness. The body cannot give forth of its best year after year under the lash of a stimulant. In the long run, it ends in but one thing,—incapability.

Are you a consistent teetotaler? Think it over.

THERE is one divorce for every seven marriages in Japan; one for every ten marriages in the United States; and one for every ten thousand in England.—*Independent*.





A view of the Korean Publishing House. Some curious little Korean children got in the line of the camera.

# A WORLD TOUR

NUMBER ELEVEN

## Korea and Japan

By HARRY H. HALL

people in Korea. It was a real inspiration to see the more than one hundred students file into chapel services; sit on mats laid on the floor,—the boys on one side of the

curtain partition and the girls on the other,—and take part in a vigorous way in the song and in other exercises of the hour. There is a great educational awakening in Korea just now. Young people are pressing into the mission schools everywhere. It is too bad our building is not larger, for we can accommodate only a portion of those who wish to attend.

A night's ride to the south brings us to Seoul, our mission headquarters and publishing house. Brother J. C. Klose, in charge of colportage, related many interesting experiences. Here are two of them: "Two colporteurs were about to enter a house on a missionary visit, when they heard some one inside reading aloud. Upon opening the door, they found a group of men sitting on the floor and attentively listening while one of their number read from the Korean *Signs of the Times*."

"At still another place, while working with a colporteur, I met a man who had read the Korean *Signs of the Times* for three years. He showed us the papers, thirty-six of them. He had bound them all together into a book. He values those papers above any others that he has, and is evidently seeking after truth. Another man had tied together copies of the *Signs of the Times* for two years. He expressed his desire to study the truth more fully and to enter the church."

### IMPORTANT ADDITION

Since my visit to the publishing house two years ago, several important additions have been made to their facilities through gifts from the homeland. First, a fine new Miehle press is installed and at work. A complete stereotyping outfit, enabling them to make metal printing plates for their books, is in operation. Sufficient bindery machinery is en route to enable them to do simple binding. Heretofore their binding was done in the city of Seoul, five miles away. Brother L. I. Bowers, the manager, is rejoicing in these added facilities, and in the arrival of Brother L. B. Dye, who will act as factory superintendent. They are now beginning to publish the larger books and to translate "Health and Longevity" from the Chinese into Korean. Their requirements in the way of machinery and facilities for 1922 amount to \$5,000.

They very much need a home for their new superintendent and his wife, and also additional room for their bindery which is now being installed, and for their new press.

As an evidence of the increasing call for gospel literature, which makes these added facilities necessary, please note the following sales records: For 1916, \$1,507.79; for 1918, \$3,417.10; for 1920, \$11,878.61. Pastor C. L. Butterfield, the veteran superintendent of the entire Korean Mission enterprise, assured me that "more than half of the new believers first heard of the mission through the Korean *Signs of the Times*."

### MISSION WORK IN JAPAN

We now turn to view the progress of our mission work in Japan.

A little more than ten years ago Brother Kato, the man at the right in the accompanying picture, began canvassing for our Japanese *Signs of the Times* in the great city of Osaka, southern Japan. The third person from whom he obtained a subscription was the young man shown at his side. He renewed his subscription from year to year through Brother Kato, and about a year ago accepted its gospel message, united with the church, and had come to the Tokyo meeting to enter the colporteur work. Brethren Kato and Shinagawa were nearly always together—father and son in the gospel. They will return to Osaka and continue the work of circulating the printed page in that great manufacturing center.

At Kobe we met Brother Harikawa, who for six years has gone from home to home and from shop to shop in that great port of southern Japan in his ministry with the printed page. He has recently married an intelligent little Christian woman, who seems as enthusiastic over the work as her husband. She accompanied him to our Tokyo institute, where I secured their picture. Our leader of colportage in Japan is a native Japanese, Brother S. Miyake, whose pic-



"Lodge" unit of tuberculosis hospital at Soonan, Korea. When a patient recovers, the thatch house is burned down and a new one built. This makes the house ideally sanitary.

SHE was only a poor Korean mother, but how tenderly she carried that little child, moaning and burning with fever! The small reception room was already full, and she must wait outside. So up and down the little yard she walked, crooning in mother fashion to the suffering mite of humanity. But her eyes were constantly upon the door, for she knew that her only hope lay in the crowded room with its Korean nurses and the busy foreign doctor beyond.

Again: A youth with bandaged arm and a drawn look upon his face comes out of the dispensary. An ugly ulcer had developed in his arm, and had been infected by the needles of heathen surgery. Gangrene had set in, and the flesh had literally rotted away. In agony he had walked to the dispensary. There the wound was cleansed and disinfected, and the arm was probably saved.

Multiply these pictures by more than a thousand a month, and you get a glimpse of the work of our Soonan Dispensary, presided over by Dr. Riley Russell and his native associates. Oftentimes bodily relief opens the way for the healing of the soul. For example: A native doctor had operated upon a woman for gall stones by sticking a red-hot door key into her liver. She was brought to the dispensary and had fully recovered. Now she is asking for meetings to be held in her home.

Across the field from the dispensary, the doctor took me to a unit of his tuberculosis hospital. In western countries it would be called a "lodge." It is built of poles lashed together to form the framework of a thatched room about five by seven feet in size. It is some six feet from the ground, and is entered by a rude ladder. Here we found a gospel colporteur who had been attacked by the dread plague and brought here some three months before. The fresh air, warm sunshine, and the good food had almost completely restored him to health. It is indeed wonderful to see the quick response this class of patients makes to these "lodge" treatments. After the patient recovers, the straw thatch is removed and burned, and the poles are ready for another unit. Such units cost about ten dollars each.

On the same compound with our dispensary is the training school for young



ture is here shown with Brother C. E. Weeks, the secretary of our Publishing Department for all the Far East. Brother Miyake has been in the States, speaks and reads English fluently, and is making rapid progress as a leader. This is indicated by the increase in their sales, as follows: 1916, Yen 2,140.36 (yen value is 50 cents gold); 1918, Yen 9,672.46; 1920, Yen 20,728.87; 1921, Yen 30,000.00 (approximately).

That this is an unusual record for one denomination to make is shown by the following report given out by the Christian Literature Society, organized under the auspices of the Federated Missions of Japan: Sales for 1916, Yen 16,584.32; 1918, Yen 19,950.20; 1920, Yen 26,306.37.

#### A COUNTRY OF READERS

Japan's population is about fifty-five million, and they are great readers. It is a very common sight to see even the ricksha men on the street corner listening to one of their number read from some current book or magazine. The Japanese are not accustomed to attending lectures and meetings, but as some 98 per cent of them are able to read, it may easily be seen how great will be the influence of gospel literature among them. In this connection, the following paragraph, taken from the "World Survey by the Interchurch World Movement of North America," is of interest:

"Christian literature of the highest grade is an essential for work among the Japanese. With less than one sixth the population of China, Japan has six times as many readers."

Brother A. B. Cole has managed the publishing house very economically indeed. During the past year it has paid all its cost of production, including salaries, with the exception of \$362.00. They are sadly in need of additional facilities. First, they need more room. The congestion is difficult to describe. When their monthly magazine is mailed, the entire front hall and most of the steps to the second floor are filled with bundles of papers and the girls who wrap and mail them. A shipment of paper was being received when I left. We looked in vain for a place to pile it, and had about decided to stack it outdoors and cover it with native mats. They finally stored it in the church across

the street from the publishing house.

They are just beginning to publish the larger books. They are also getting out an edition of that beautiful soul-winning book, "Steps to Christ." Through gifts from the United States, they have been supplied with a paper cutter, a stereotyping outfit, and some bindery facilities. So they are asking for only \$6,325 for 1922.

#### TWO OUTSTANDING FACTS

In closing this ten months' trip among mission press publishing houses, I have been impressed with two outstanding facts: First, the soul-winning character of gospel literature. A few instances have been given, but scores might have been related if there had been sufficient space. Truly, Luther was right when he said, "Printing is the latest and greatest gift by which God enables us to advance the things of the gospel." Second, the carefulness with which these establishments are managed and the economy exercised in the use of the funds appropriated to them.

Those in charge of the Mission Press Fund feel very thankful for all gifts received. Are there not others who would



The leader of our colporteur work in Japan is a native Japanese. He is here shown (on the right) with Brother C. E. Weeks, the secretary of our Publishing Department for all the Far East.

like to aid in this work, and thus confer a great blessing upon the agencies which are disseminating Christian literature throughout the world?

## The Old Cobbler's Dream

By CHRISTIAN KUHNLE

**I**N a little shop on the corner of a street in the city of Marseilles, lived an honest old shoemaker. He was such a kind old man that he was loved and honored by all his neighbors, who called him, "Father Martin."

One Christmas Eve Father Martin had been reading in his Bible the story of the three wise men who brought their gifts to the Infant Jesus; and as he sat in his armchair in the twilight, he said to himself, "If only to-morrow were the first Christmas Day! If only the Saviour were coming to this world to-night! How I would serve Him! How I would adore Him! I know very well what I would give Him."

He arose and took down from the shelf two dear little shoes. "Here is what I would give Him—my finest work. How pleased His mother would be! But what am I thinking of?" he continued, smiling. "Does the Saviour need my poor shop and my shoes?"

That night Father Martin had a dream. He thought that a wonderfully sweet voice, the voice of Jesus Himself, said to him: "Martin, you have wished to see Me. Watch the street to-morrow, from morning until evening, for I shall pass your window. But you must try your best to recognize Me, for I shall not make Myself known to you."

When he awoke the next morning, Father Martin, convinced that what he had dreamed would surely take place, hastened to put his shop in order. Then he lighted his fire, and seated himself at the window to watch the passers-by.

After watching in vain for an hour, Martin saw a young woman, miserably clothed, carrying a baby in her arms. She was so pale and thin that the heart of the cobbler was touched, and he called to her.

"You don't look very well," he said.

"I am going to the hospital," replied the woman. "I hope they will take me with my child. My husband is at sea, and I've been expecting him home for three months. I'm sick, and I haven't a cent."

"Poor woman!" said the old man. "You must eat some bread while you are getting warm. No? Well, at least take a cup of milk for the little one. Come, warm yourself, and let me take the baby. I had one of my own once. I know how to manage them. He has a fine head—this one of yours. Why, you haven't put on his shoes!"

"He hasn't any," sighed the woman.

"Wait a minute. I have a pair that will just fit." And the old man brought the shoes which he had looked at the evening before, and put them on the child's feet. They fitted perfectly.

The young woman went away full of gratitude, and Father Martin went back to his post by the window.

Hour after hour went by, and many persons passed the window; still he had not seen Christ! Many beggars asked for alms. The kind face of the old man seemed to promise something, and none of them were deceived. But the Master did not come.

At last it grew dark. The old man's eyes were tired and his heart was heavy. Sadly he began to prepare his humble supper. "It was a dream," he murmured. "Well, I did hope, but He has not come."

After supper he fell asleep in his chair. Suddenly the room seemed full of people. The street sweeper was there; the poor woman with the baby was there. Both said to him, "Have you not seen me?" Behind them came the beggars to whom he had given alms; neighbors to whom he

(Continued on page 15)



Left to right: Brethren Shinagawa and Kato. These two men have had long experience in colporteur work in Osaka, Japan.



# FINDING *the* TRUTH BY ELIMINATION

When confronted with a great mass of conflicting statements, detectives often employ the "elimination test" in their search for the truth. By the use of certain standards, they eliminate certain statements, thus bringing the problem within a very small compass. This method may be followed in a search for Bible truth amid the conflicting claims of men.



By **VARNER J. JOHNS**

**O**F infinite worth in these days of perplexity and confusion of thought is that jewel of truth known the world over as the Holy Bible. Never has there been such a crying need for a "back-to-the-Bible" movement, an acceptance of "all Scripture" from Genesis to Revelation as the alpha

and omega of truth.

Vital Christianity has waned in power, while religious systems have multiplied in number. There are many religions and countless creeds, but they do not ring true to the Book of books. Some discard the Bible entirely. Many others delight in interpreting the validity of the Bible. This modern infidelity, veiled as a religious-scientific advancement, has dissected the Word of Truth, degraded the Bible to the level of human philosophy, and has almost banished the faith of our fathers from the earth. Many others there are who profess acceptance of the Book but who practice a rejection of vital truths.

There can be but one Bible truth, and the Bible itself is the only test for truth. What profit is there for a man or an association of men to pose as defenders of the fundamentals of truth, while rejecting some of the most vital doctrines? What a travesty it is on truth for a so-called fundamentals association to quote from the Bible, "To the law and to the testimony; if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them," and then brazenly to declare that one of the ten precepts of that "law" of God is abolished! The Bible has lost its appeal to the masses, because Bible teachers have given to the world a discordant theology and a pseudo-truth.

The Bible is the fundamental creed of Seventh-day Adventists. They regard it as the *vox Dei* (the voice of God),—the criterion of all truth. But that, you say, is the same story reiterated by a "thousand and one" denominations, near-denominations, and erratic teachers. Every religious system, from the stately, creed-bound church, to the lone-star preacher and his few satellites, proclaims the Bible as the foundation of its belief.

## ONLY ONE BIBLE TRUTH

It is a self-evident fact that there can be but one Bible truth, though the name of error be legion. That one truth can never be covered. Though the midnight shades of error enshroud the world in their dense folds, the light of truth must shine out ever brighter until the dawn of the perfect day. "Thy Word is truth." The Bible is truth in its essence, its purity, its entirety. Surely, Mr. Truth Seeker, you cannot believe that the multifarious religious systems, with their motley collection of religious platitudes, their philosophical pompousities, their incompatible theories and hypotheses, have the Bible truth! Yet you know that God

has given to the world His truth and that the truth of God is found in the Bible. You hope, also, that one denomination or association of men, or at least one prophet of righteousness, is teaching the truth of God, unadulterated with error.

"How can I know which church is the right one?" is a question that is asked over and over. A hopeless task, you say, to tread through the maze of error in search for truth! You are mistaken. The task is neither complex nor difficult. Be honest with God, take the Bible at par value, use the elimination process, and you will soon find the truth and the true church.

One plain Bible truth will eliminate at least nine tenths of the "one thousand and one" teachings. I refer to the Bible fundamental in regard to baptism. The statement of Romans 6: 3-5 is so forceful that even a child can understand. "Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into His death? Therefore we are buried with Him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life."

This emphatic utterance regarding the true and only form of baptism quickly cuts out the greatest portion of error. If a church does not teach and follow the Bible truth in regard to baptism, then that church does not ring true to the whole Bible. Its garments are muddled in the waters of tradition.

## FURTHER ELIMINATION

One more plain Bible teaching in your search for gold amid the tinsel of counterfeit truth and the great bulk of error is eliminated. Remember that a "thus saith the Lord" is truth, for God is the author of truth and cannot lie.

"God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it: because that in it He had rested from all His work which God created and made." Genesis 2: 3.

There can be but one Bible truth, and the Bible itself is the only test for truth. What profit is there for a man or an association of men to pose as defenders of the fundamentals of truth, while rejecting some of the most vital doctrines. What a travesty it is on truth for a so-called fundamentals association to quote from the Bible, "To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them," and then brazenly to declare that one of the ten precepts of that "law" of God is abolished!

"Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labor and do all thy work: but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord thy God: . . . for in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day, and hallowed it." Exodus 20: 8-11.

"That day was the preparation, and the Sabbath drew on. And the women also . . . rested the Sabbath day according to the commandment. Now upon the first day of the week, very early in the morning, they came unto the sepulcher." Luke 23: 54-56; 24: 1.

Jehovah declares in unequivocal language, "The seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord thy God." This statement is either the truth or it is not. The great I AM inscribed these words with His own finger on the tables of stone. The seventh day—the Sabbath of the commandment—was kept by the followers of Jesus after the crucifixion. Men have sought out many arguments to evade this statement of truth, but every evasion is a sham. Every excuse is insincerity with God.

In your search for truth, then, Mr. Truth Seeker, you find that the Seventh-day Adventist Church, with one or two other Christian churches, stands apart from the world in an acceptance of this "fundamental." Follow the silver thread of truth, and you will find every teaching of the Seventh-day Adventists fortified with the Word of God and freed from the theories, traditions, and illusions of men.

## A CHART THAT MISREPRESENTS

A chart, entitled "The Spirit of Truth and the Spirit of Error," and published by the Christian Fundamentals League, classifies Seventh-day Adventists in the hotchpotch of error along with Theosophy, Christian Science, New Theology, and other antichristian deceptions. In order to sustain this classification, the author of the tract degrades himself and the cause of Christ with gross misrepresentation and deliberate falsehood.

A list of Bible texts is given in one column of the chart describing the character of God, Christ, and the Holy Spirit, the nature of sin, the atonement, salvation, and retribution. Then in other columns are grouped the purported teachings of error in contradistinction to the Word of truth. Seventh-day Adventists accept every Bible text as inspired of God, and are in complete harmony with the scriptures cited in the first column of the chart. But Seventh-day Adventists could never harmonize with the teachings or with the spirit of the publishers of this chart.

The statements in regard to purported teachings of Seventh-day Adventists form an astounding accumulation of criminal misrepresentation. We shall consider briefly one of these statements:

"The keeping of the law is necessary to salvation. The law of Moses was never abrogated."



This is the direct opposite of Seventh-day Adventist teaching. "Justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus," is our creed. No man, Jew or gentile, has ever been saved by keeping the law. But the same Bible which teaches justification by faith, teaches also that faith establishes the perfection of the law. "Do we then make void the law through faith? God forbid: yea, we establish the law." Romans 3:31. If a man is truly converted, he will delight to do the will of God. The Ten Commandments are an expression of God's will to men.

#### BEARS OUT HIS BELIEF

Evidently the author of this tract teaches that the law of God has been abolished. Perhaps that accounts for the ease with which he violates the command that says, "Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor."

Seventh-day Adventists exalt the law of God. A violation of that law is the inspired definition of sin. "Sin is the transgression of the law." The increase of crime and wickedness in the world and the low standards of righteousness among professed Christians, are the direct results of the antinomian teachings of so many religionists. Antinomianism is lawlessness. Satan hates the law of God because these ten divine precepts are an expression of God's character of righteousness. Those who tear down the law of God and cast it upon the scrap heap are fulfilling Satan's program.

In a standard Seventh-day Adventist work, "Bible Readings for the Home Circle," a quotation is made from the writings of C. H. Spurgeon and accepted by Seventh-day Adventists as fundamental truth: "What is the law of God for? for us to keep in order to be saved by it?—Not at all. It is sent in order to show us that we cannot be saved by works, and to shut us up to be saved by grace. . . . I say you have deprived the gospel of its ablest auxiliary when you set aside the law. You have taken from it the schoolmaster that is to bring men to Christ. They will never accept grace till they tremble before a just and holy law. Therefore the law serves a most necessary and blessed purpose and must not be removed from its place." That is Spurgeon's doctrine; it is Wesley's doctrine; it is Seventh-day Adventist doctrine; and it is Bible doctrine. Seventh-day Adventists teach that the ceremonial law—the law of Moses—was taken away at the cross. But the moral law—the Ten Commandment law—the law of God—is eternal in its very nature.

#### MORE UNTRUTHFUL CHARGES

Another gross misrepresentation is found in the following statement from the tract, relative to Seventh-day Adventist teaching:

"Sinners will be damned and punished with the devil for one thousand years, and then annihilated. Souls sleep after death until the thousand years when Satan and his followers will be on earth."

The twentieth chapter of Revelation outlines the events connected with the millennium. During the thousand-year period the righteous are said to have "lived and reigned with Christ." Then, with reference to the wicked, verse five declares that "the rest of the dead lived

not again until the thousand years were finished."

The wicked are not to be punished during the thousand years, but, on the contrary, live "not again" until after that period. Then punishment is meted out to them as fire from God burns them up.

The Bible teaches that the wicked are dead during the thousand-year period. Seventh-day Adventists agree with the Bible. It is apparent, then, that the statement attributed to Seventh-day Adventists, "Sinners will be punished with the devil one thousand years," is a deliberate and malicious misrepresentation of Seventh-day Adventist teachings.

Interesting consideration could well be given to other statements in this tract with reference to Christ in His mediatorial work as our "Great High Priest," the condition of man in death, the punishment of the wicked, and other questions. The readers of the SIGNS OF THE TIMES are conversant with the Bible evidence in regard to these subjects.

"To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them." Isaiah 8:20.

#### MEASURED BY ITS OWN RULE

Special prominence in the chart is given to these words of inspiration, taken from the book of Isaiah, the prophet of Israel. Let us for a moment measure the "fundamentals league" by its own rule. The law of God is indeed God's measuring rod of Christian character. Those who knowingly, willingly, and perseveringly transgress any one of the ten divine precepts are guilty of willful disobedience and have "no light in them." The "fundamentals league" has deliberately rejected that command which says, "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. . . . The seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord thy God." They "speak not according to this word." In their evasion of the binding claims of the fourth commandment, the note of confusion is sounded. A traditional counterfeit is chosen in the place of a divine command. By their own standard of judgment, "to the law and to the testimony," they enlist themselves under the banner of tradition and error instead of inspiration and truth. And then, to hide their evasion of God's law, they accuse Seventh-day Adventists,—the upholders of the binding claims of a perfect law,—of teaching error.

In the days of Israel's darkest apostasy, Elijah the prophet, in his spectacular test of the power of God, challenged the people to righteousness, with the words, "If the Lord be God, follow Him: but if Baal, then follow him." Baal was the sun god. In these days of apostasy, the Elijah message, as proclaimed by Seventh-day Adventists, calls the people to forsake a counterfeit sabbath—the sun day—and to keep the day called by Jehovah of hosts, "My holy day." If the Word of God is true, then accept it as the voice of God speaking to you. Believe in it as all-inspired. Accept it in its entirety.

"THE secret of success is the union of divine power with human effort. Those who achieve the greatest results are those who rely most implicitly upon the Almighty arm."

## Is the Bible Out of Date?

(Continued from page 1)

"The part that science has played in these accomplishments puts it up to science to find the way out. Revision of this standard work of literature [the Bible] must be essentially the task of science."

#### THOUSANDS BELIEVE THUS

Dr. Baskerville is not alone in his conclusions. Thousands of the best scholars of the world agree with his findings. H. G. Wells, the English literary flame, has told us recently that he and a group representing all classes of wise men of the times could write a new bible. But here we have the scientists, and more especially the chemists, we suppose, clamoring for the honor of the task. What was it some one said about rushing in where angels fear to tread?

We have had the Revised Version, the American Revised Version, the Twentieth Century Version, the Modern Speech Version, and the Shorter Bible Version; but it remains for the chemists to propose and execute the Scientific Revised Version. Well, we won't worry; we'll just wait.

Meanwhile we may notice why the Bible needs revising by science—because "many of the miracles of the New Testament are everyday acts of master surgeons to-day." This assertion, of course, discredits the use of divine or supernatural power in the healing miracles of Jesus, for it is the healing of the body with which surgeons are concerned; and, manifestly, if surgeons to-day accomplish the same thing Jesus did, then He had no greater power than they. In other words, He was a mere man, not the divine Son of God. This is the reasoning, and these are the logical conclusions.

But we seriously question the learned doctor's statements of fact. It may be that the reading public is yet ignorant of the latest feats of surgery; yet it is certain that if a surgeon stepped into a hospital and said to a man paralyzed from birth, "I say unto you, in the name and by the power of Modern Science, rise up and walk," and if, in response, the paralytic immediately rose up and walked, surely some enterprising reporter would sooner or later capture a "scoop" like that, and wireless it to the ends of the earth. We have yet to hear of an eye specialist approaching on the street a man who is totally blind, and with only a word or a touch restoring his sight.

#### CHRIST CONDUCTED NO HOSPITAL

The healing miracles of Jesus were all of this nature. He carried about no scalpel, He had no lying-in hospital. He healed with a word,—instantly, completely, finally. Do surgeons to-day do that? It is being done to-day by the same power with which it was done then; but do surgeons do it?

We anticipate an objection to this reasoning to the effect that what is meant is that surgeons accomplish the same end that Jesus did, but in a different way. And it must be said that surgeons do wonders; they make the blind to see by removing cataracts, they graft on new organs, they cause transfusion of blood, and perform even more wonderful operations. But the way these are done makes



all the difference between an ordinary natural process and a miracle. Surgeons do not perform miracles. Their highest feats of skill are no more miracles than is the filling of a tooth to stop its decay. What they do seems miraculous because it is new to them and to us,—new to their manner of healing. Christ healed by creative power, power outside of, and above, the patient. Surgeons heal by removing certain obstacles to nature's healing herself.

And more, an intrinsic, inseparable part of all Christ's healing was the fundamental healing of the soul. "Go, and sin no more," were the words that accompanied His cures. Heartsickness, spiritual sickness, is the basic cause of all bodily sickness; and so perfect was His remedial agency in its working that the very invisible, intangible roots of disease were entirely eradicated from the system. Name us a modern surgeon who can do that.

The trouble is that superficial scientific thinkers of to-day fail to understand what Christ really did when He performed miracles; it is easy, therefore, for them to believe and assert that men to-day can duplicate His miraculous accomplishments.

#### WHY ENDEAVOR TO HARMONIZE THEM?

Our quoted authority for the scientific side of the question says that "the pulpit has sought to harmonize what it did not understand with phraseology fifteen or more centuries old." Yet he proposes to harmonize (by whipping the Bible into shape) something he does not understand (fundamental Christian doctrine) with the latest—but not the last—conclusions of science. Plainly, in view of his statements, he is one with the pulpit in such grave error. In the word "pulpit" he classes all Christian teaching, no doubt. But we decline to be set off with those who try to harmonize Holy Writ with science as commonly accepted. Modern scientific teaching is so thoroughly based on evolution that the two are practically the same; and the Bible and evolution cannot be harmonized. Shame to any pulpit which has stooped to try to make accord where only discord can ever be!

We are told that "the part that science has played" in bringing "the individual into touch or into communication with all other individuals of our world," "puts it up to science to find the way out." Find the way out of what? Seemingly, out of the disagreement between God and science, or, as the scientist puts it, between the phraseology of God's Book and science. In other words, it is the absolute duty of science to revise the Bible. And we fully expect that ere long such a revision will appear.

Because of the prominent part science has played in modern progress, it behooves science to revise the Bible. Because of the part science has had in the fulfillment of Nahum's prophecy of the nature and speed of modern conveyances, science must revise the Bible. Because of the part science has had in the fulfillment of Daniel's prophecy that at "the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased," science feels obligated to revise the Bible. Because scientists are to-day what long ago the Word said they would be, "heady,

high-minded," therefore scientists reach for the chance to revise the Bible. Why revise it? Their actions and attitude simply corroborate its statements. It needs no revising at their hands.

Let it be said to all those to whom the Bible is no more than a "standard work of literature,"—to be laid open on the literary surgeon's dissecting table and hacked to pieces, or tossed hither and yon on the bayonet points of higher criticism,—that the Word of God itself defies you to do your best, or your worst, to revise it to suit your opinions, or to annihilate it to free your actions from condemnation. Discuss, and resolve, and revise as you will, the Incarnate Word stands inviolate in the eyes of millions of sincere Christians, yet untouched and untouchable, by your strenuous efforts to demean the good old Book. God be thanked that to-day, as of old, there are hundreds of highly intelligent churches and communities which still accept it, and will continue to accept it, as it is indeed, the Word of God and not the words of men.

### What Events Will Precede Christ's Coming?

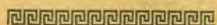
(Continued from page 5)

rapidly going to-day, Christ will come. There can be no putting it off. The day of the Lord "hasteth greatly," and—

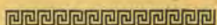
"The signs which show His coming near,  
Are fast fulfilling year by year."

Distress of nations with perplexity; social, industrial, and national unrest, causing men's hearts to fail them for fear; increasing crime; growing worldliness upon the part of the church; the alarming inroads of spiritism; and, coupled with these, the phenomenal advancement of the gospel message in all the world; the proclaiming of the hour of God's judgment; the exalting of the flag of loyalty to the commandments of Jehovah in the face of growing iniquity,—these all proclaim, in tones which none can fairly mistake, that the day of the Lord is at hand.

Indeed, the soon coming of Christ is the only solution for earth's perplexities. Man's most noble endeavors for establishing righteousness by culture and environment have broken down under the strain of wickedness. Just as every peace treaty has proved to be merely "a scrap of



View of the Conference table around which the representatives of the great powers are now grouped. Secretary of State, Charles Evans Hughes, occupies the chair in the center; with the American delegates at his right and the British at his left. The other nations are seated in alphabetical precedence.



## Signs of the Times

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J. R. FERREN, Circulation Manager

paper," so political righteousness has failed before political iniquity; social righteousness has broken down under the onslaught of social iniquity; and "evil men and seducers" have waxed "worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived." 2 Timothy 3: 13.

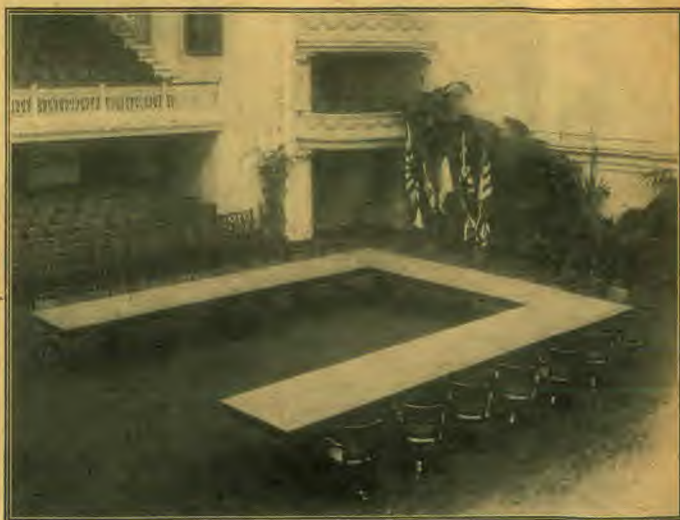
At such a time as this, the Bible declares, our Lord will come. And we exclaim in the closing words of the Scriptures, "Even so, come, Lord Jesus."

### No Paper Next Week

THE SIGNS OF THE TIMES publishes fifty numbers each year, according to advertisement. No paper, therefore, will be issued next week. The next paper you receive will bear date of January 3, 1922.

### Natural Unpolished Rice

DR. HEALD, of Washington, D. C., editor of *Life and Health*, after ordering 100 pounds, pronounces it the best he ever ate. Price \$6.00 a hundred f. o. b. Oakland. 25 pounds (least quantity sold), \$1.75 plus postage. Black figs, \$3.00 per 25-pound box. J. A. Holton, 3402 Davis St., Oakland, California.



Underwood



# SIGNS of the TIMES INDEX FOR 1921

Aburdities of Appetite	Wellman, Adelaide D.	14	Do You Live on Stimulants?	Donaldson, Dr. Arthur N.	50	
Africa	Andross, Elmer E.	13	Do You Work for Wages?	Wells, Geo. W.	50	
America's Three Passions	Lloyd, Ernest	35				
Among the Indians of the Andes	Shaw, John L.	7	Earthquakes, Floods, and Tornadoes	Editorial	37	
An Absorbing Topic	Editorial	46	Eating Between Meals	Kress, M. D., Lauretta E.	16	
An Analysis of Sin	Bradley, Walter H.	9	Education Did Not Save	Belleau, Geo. S.	47	
Angels of Jesus, The	Pearce, Wm. P.	39	Education for the White Child of India	Enoch, Geo. F.	30	
Anger of Jesus, The	Pearce, Wm. P.	1	Efficiency of the Age Planned by	God, The	13	
Animism's Antitoxin	Andross, Elmer E.	14	Egyptian Speculations in Modern Dress	Dudley, Frank	33	
An Income-Tax Law Made in Heaven	Corliss, John Orr	37	Empty Life and the Full One, The	Stevens, J. Adams	33	
An Unchangeable Sabbath from an			Essence of Sin, The	Johns, Varner J.	33	
Unchangeable God	Grandy, B. J.	17	Essence of the Law, The	Healey, Wm. M.	17	
Anvil, The	25, 27, 29, 35, 41, 43, 46,	50	Eternal Basis of the Sabbath, The	Editorial	33	
Are Criminals Accountable?	Editorial	26	Evolution Disproved by the Record of	Westworth, W. A.	9	
Are You Grateful?	Nagel, Sherman A.	27	Genesis	Fulton, John E.	31	
Are You in Sound Health?	Heald, Dr. G. H.	30	Evolution's Empty Dream	Reed, Lucas A.	47	
Are You Planning Your Journey by			Exit Common Sense	Editorial	27	
the Guidebook?	Loper, Mary A.	30	Extracting the Tooth of Prejudice	Andross, Elmer E.	16	
Are You a Liar?	Belleau, W. E.	35				
Are You Perfect?	Belleau, Geo. S.	47	Facing the Facts with Optimism	Cottrell, Roy F.	28	
As a Light in the Dark	Adam, Ben	12	Facts Concerning the Great Event	Gilbert, Andrew C.	35	
As a Man Thinketh	Unruh, Bertha	39	Fail Me Not (Poem)	Bollman, Calvin P.	36	
Atonement, The	Enoch, Geo. F.	37-47	Faith or Evolution, Which?	Hare, Robert	49	
Attorney-General's Topic	Editorial	39	Falling Back on Religion	Editorial	37	
			False Notions as to World Progress	Editorial	43	
Back to the Farm	Halladay, Howard K.	29	Farewell of Jesus to His Disciples	Pearce, Wm. P.	20	
Back to the Home	Lloyd, Ernest	41	Farewell of Jesus to the World	Pearce, Wm. P.	18	
Ball That Becomes an Avalanche, The	Smith, Leon A.	21	Farewell Prayer of Jesus	Pearce, Wm. P.	21	
Bank Draft or Scrap of Paper	Wilcox, Milton C.	21	Fate of the Majority, The	Belleau, Geo. S.	42	
Bartering Away Eternity	Franks, Horace G.	12	Fellowship of Jesus, The	Pearce, Wm. P.	2	
Behold Thy King! (Poem)	Carey, Albert	15	Festival for Buddha, A	Anderson, A. N.	49	
Bells Across the Snow (Poem)	Olson, Ruth Lees	1	Final Act of Creation, The	Tefft, Byron E.	42	
Best Book to Read, The	Lewis, Charles C.	42	Financiers Have Not Learned of	Abolition of Decalogue	Editorial	32
Best Plan for World Reconstruction, The	Shuler, John Lewis	39	Finding the Truth by Elimination	Johns, Varner J.	50	
Beware of a Soft Job	Heald, Dr. Geo. H.	27	First Week of Earth's History, The	Tefft, Byron E.	37	
Bible Circulation	Carter, Geo. W.	27	Fled from the Danger Zone	Editorial	29	
Bible Study in the Colleges	Editorial	41	Following After Fables	Editorial	31	
Blazers of the Trail	Robinson, Asa T.	35-38	Following in Ancient Tracks	Adams, Kay M.	31	
Blood of Jesus, The	Pearce, Wm. P.	29	Found—A New Bible	Editorial	29	
Brand of Apostasy, The	Shuler, John L.	46	Foundations for a Religious Tyranny, The	Editorial	1	
Breaking One Means Breaking Ten	Webster, E. W.	48	Four Revelations of God, The	Bradley, Walter H.	3	
			France and the Vatican Exchange	Diplomats	Editorial	24
Call to Young Women, A	Evans, Irwin H.	2	Friend of God, The	Thompson, Geo. B.	32	
Calm and Storm (Poem)	Hare, Robert	6	Friendly Chat About Ghosts, A	Fries, Robert S.	26	
Can We Legislate Men into Heaven?	Westworth, W. A.	12	Friendship of Jesus, The	Pearce, Wm. P.	2	
Carrying the Gospel to Millions	Town, Nelson Z.	19	Fullness of Our Redemption, The	Wells, Geo. W.	40	
Case Against the Cup, The	Kress, M. D., Daniel H.	27				
Certified Sabbath for the Christian, A	Gilbert, F. C.	15	Garments of Jesus, The	Pearce, Wm. P.	26	
Chaff and Wheat	Cottrell, Roy F.	49	Gathering Tide of Violence, A	Editorial	25	
Chemical Warfare	Editorial	25	Glad Tidings to All Men (Poem)	Sours, B. F. M.	50	
China's Urgent Call for Education	Evans, Adelaide Bee	18	Glorious Triumph, The (Poem)	Sours, B. F. M.	34	
Chinese Political Horizon, The	Cottrell, Roy F.	33	Glory of the Cross, The	Addis, Wm. H.	32	
Christ and the Bible	Yarnell, William	35	Goal of Civilization, The	Editorial	47	
Christian Fundamentals, The	Editorial	35	God Answers Prayer	Kuhnle, Christian	44	
Christianity in Ancient Times	Gilbert, Frederick C.	46	God Is Love (Poem)	Myrea, Jessie	10	
Christianity the World's Greatest Triumph	Nagel, Sherman A.	49	God-Man, The	Yarnell, Wm. A.	34	
Christian's Invisible Helpers, The	Kellogg, Chester E.	9	God's Gospel Kindergarten	Hankins, W. C.	42, 43	
Christian's Storehouse, The	Bunch, Taylor G.	1	God's Great Pay Day	Smith, S. Parker	3	
Christian Sympathy the Need of To-day	Place, E. A.	38	God's Reward (Poem)	Lippincott, Martha S.	7	
Christ Is the Son of God	Rine, Geo. W.	42	God the Great Helper	Caldwell, W. F.	21	
Christ Our Pattern of Humility	Hilliard, E. H.	44	Good God and a Bad World, A	Price, Geo. M.	2	
Christ's Return Due in This Generation	Bowen, Tyler E.	32	Gospel to All the World, The	Lukens, M.	9	
Christ the Center of the Message for To-day	Rine, Geo. W.	45	Greater Silence, The	Maxwell, A. S.	3	
Christ Will Return in This Generation	Adams, Kay M.	47	Greatest Menace, The	Editorial	30	
Code of Laws Six Thousand Years Old, A	Tefft, Byron E.	43	Greatest Question—What Is Truth? The	Unruh, Bertha	10	
Coming of Jesus, The	Pearce, Wm. P.	37	Great Apostasy and the Great	Reform, The	Shaw, John L.	45
Coming Soon (Poem)	Hare, Robert	20	Great Book, The	Tefft, Byron E.	31	
Coming—The Greatest Event of the Ages	Bradley, Walter H.	17	Great Invitation, The	Belleau, W. E.	25	
Come Out of Babylon	Nagel, Sherman A.	49	Great Promises	Editorial	31	
Confidence in the Unseen	Bunch, Taylor G.	11	Great Question, A	Thompson, Geo. B.	31	
Conqueror Who Puts an End to War, The	Maxwell, Arthur S.	27	Great Task of the Church, The	Guild, Minos C.	32	
Conscripted or Enlisted Service?	Snyder, George A.	13	Greed versus Greed	Porter, Stanley W.	26	
Constitution of the Universe, The	Thompson, Geo. B.	45	Guideposts on the Highway of Life	Wells, Geo. W.	49	
Converting Pagans to a New Paganism	Cottrell, Roy F.	34				
Could You Improve the Ten	O'Neil, Maud	20	Happy Are Ye If—	Bowen, Tyler E.	5	
Commandments?	Pearce, Wm. P.	10	Has Every One Joined the Jazz Orchestra?	Ice, Orva Lee	16	
Courage of Jesus, The	Follett, Orno	39	Has Quarantined Sin	Editorial	26	
Creation	Bunch, Taylor G.	31	Has the Corner Stone Dropped Out?	Wilkinson, B. G.	7	
Crime of Embezzlement, The	Pearce, Wm. P.	25	Have You Left All?	Belleau, W. E.	35	
Cross of Jesus, The	Rine, Geo. W.	19	Healing of the Death Stroke, The	Van Kirk, M. B.	23	
Crowning Hope of the Church, The	Pearce, Wm. P.	48	Heaven: A Fact or a Fancy	White, Stemple	41	
Crowns of Jesus, The	Anderson, A. N.	11	Heaven a Real Place for Real People	Guild, Minos C.	31	
Cry of the Empty Bowl, The	Editorial	17	Hidden Dangers in the Milk Bottle, The	Kress, Dr. D. H.	29	
Cultivate Meekness	Pearce, Wm. P.	46	"Hide Thyself for a Little Moment"	Editorial	25	
Cup of Jesus, The	Heald, Dr. G. H.	34	His Eyes Are upon You	Hill, Max	11	
Curing a Prevalent Ailment	Kress, Dr. D. H.	40	His Stately Steppings (Poem)	Holden, Worthie H.	19	
Curious Product, A	Kilgore, M. D., Alson R.	41	Hold Fast Our Confidence	Editorial	33	
Curse of Cancer, The	Editorial	25	Holiday or Holy Day?	Editorial	14	
			Home and Mother	Kress, Dr. D. H.	9	
Dabbling in Heathenism	Kress, Dr. D. H.	31	Horrors of Future Wars	Editorial	29	
Dairy Products and Disease	Franks, Horace G.	7	House of Darkness, A	Belleau, W. E.	26	
Darwinism's Death Knell	Bradley, Walter H.	39	How Can We Do Without It?	Starr, Geo. B.	1	
Day Blessed by God, The	Thompson, G. B.	30	How Do You Advertise?	Wagner, E. G.	35	
Dead Devil a Dangerous Belief, A	Editorial	14	How Is Your Armor?	Addis, W. H.	40	
Deadly Art	Martin, W. F.	42	How to Solve Our Great Problems	Editorial	13	
Dead Shall Live, The	Thompson, G. B.	25	Humility of Jesus, The	Pearce, Wm. P.	17	
Deathbed Repentance	Thompson, G. B.	25				
Destiny Settled by the Tongue	Miller, M. D., Harry W.	15	I Believe the Bible Because—	Neilsen, Nels P.	48	
Detecting the Humbug in Healing	Editorial	31	Importance of Prayer, The	Kuhnle, Christian	47	
Detector of Sin, The	Thurber, Robert B.	48	Incarnation, The	Gilbert, Fred. C.	47	
Devotees of Mammon	Editorial	33	Industrial Unrest and Moral Decadence	Gilbert, Andrew C.	48	
Devotion	Anderson, Hans S.	33	Infidelity's Brazen Assumption	Bowen, Tyler E.	1	
Devouring Husks	Grandy, B. M.	23	In the Trying Hour	Addis, Wm. H.	33	
Did God Lie?	Hare, Robert	35	In Tune with God on the Sabbath	Bristow, Edmund J.	24	
Did You Forget? (Poem)	Editorial	37	Invisible Hand, The	McEachern, John H.	1	
Disarmament Conference, The	Beddoe, Everett E.	34	Invitation to All, The	Belleau, W. E.	40	
Dissecting Body, Soul, and Spirit	Horton, Sanford B.	46	Is a Religious Combine the Solution?	Editorial	30	
Divergent Views of Blue Laws	Bowen, Tyler E.	30	Is Christ Enshrined in Your Heart?	Troy, Owen A.	50	
Doctrines Traced to Their Origin	Johnson, J. J. Berger	48	Is God Particular?	Editorial	5	
Does God Mean What He Says?	Brown, Wm. L.	23	Is Grace Found in the New Dispensation	Porter, Stanley W.	1	
Does the Bible O. K. the Dance?	Price, G. M.	19				
Does the World Need Christ's Coming?	Editorial	42	I Shall Be Glad (Poem)	Spalding, A. W.	19	
Dogs or Babies?	Editorial	49	Is Honest Toil a Crime?	Martin, Wm. F.	9	
Don't Deceive Yourself	Farley, Richard F.	43	Is Religion for Children?	Anderson, Alfonso N.	16	
Do Sinai and Calvary Conflict?	Adams, Kay M.	46	Is Sunday an American Institution?	Maxwell, E. L.	20	
Do Spiritism and Christianity Agree?						
Do the Jews Have a Monopoly on the	Haynes, Carlyle B.	11				
Sabbath?	Quinn, R. D.	3				
Double Nature in the Christian, The						



Is the Bible Out of Date? . . . . .	Thurber, Robert B. . . . .	50	Proof of His Coming, The . . . . .	Westworth, W. A. . . . .	41
Is the Church Responsible for Crime? . . . . .	Porter, Stanley W. . . . .	46	Prophecy Accurately Fulfilled, A . . . . .	Adams, Kay M. . . . .	3
Is the Human Race About to Suicide? . . . . .	Editorial . . . . .	29	Prophecy and the Pharaohs, The . . . . .	Cottrell, Roy F. . . . .	48
Is the Penalty Death? . . . . .	Cottrell, Roy F. . . . .	25	Protecting Worship on Sunday . . . . .	Thompson, Geo. B. . . . .	32
Is the World Growing Better? . . . . .	Cady, Iva F. . . . .	17	Question of the Hour, The . . . . .	Rine, Geo. W. . . . .	39
Is the World Round or Flat on Sunday? . . . . .	Reed, Lucas A. . . . .	37	Racing for Armageddon . . . . .	Editorial . . . . .	28
Is This a Christian Nation? . . . . .	Bollman, C. P. . . . .	37	Razor Disarmament . . . . .	Editorial . . . . .	44
Is Truth Evasive? . . . . .	Shuler, J. L. . . . .	20	Real Cause of Crime, The . . . . .	Shuler, John L. . . . .	11
Is Water Baptism Essential? . . . . .	Cady, Iva F. . . . .	20	Real Works of the Reel . . . . .	Editorial . . . . .	36
Is Your Life Insured? . . . . .	Grandy, B. M. . . . .	9	Relation of Diet to Cancer, The . . . . .	Heald, Dr. G. H. . . . .	47
Is Your Title Clear? . . . . .	Rowen, Tyler E. . . . .	36	Religious Despotism, A . . . . .	Longacre, Charles S. . . . .	4
I Want Christ to Come Because— . . . . .	Wilcox, F. M. . . . .	19	Reversing Cause and Effect . . . . .	Editorial . . . . .	49
"I Will Come Again" (Poem) . . . . .	Moser, Jessie F. . . . .	9	Republic with an Emperor in Reserve, The . . . . .	Cottrell, Roy F. . . . .	21
Jambes Tree, The . . . . .	Editorial . . . . .	29	Resurrection of Jesus, The . . . . .	Pearce, Wm. P. . . . .	35
Jesus Our Friend . . . . .	Thrasher, Raymond R. . . . .	36	Ride of Jesus, The . . . . .	Pearce, Wm. P. . . . .	14
Jewish Colony in China, A . . . . .	Cottrell, Roy F. . . . .	12	Right Use of the Scripture, The . . . . .	Editorial . . . . .	31
Joy of Jesus, The . . . . .	Pearce, Wm. P. . . . .	11	Righteousness by Faith . . . . .	Thompson, Geo. B. . . . .	38
King's Dream, A . . . . .	Guild, Minos C. . . . .	44	Robbing Heaven of Its God and . . . . .	Longacre, Charles S. . . . .	5
Last Supper of Jesus, The . . . . .	Pearce, Wm. P. . . . .	15	Earth of Its Bible . . . . .	Franks, Horace G. . . . .	9
Laying Up Treasures . . . . .	Belleau, W. E. . . . .	48	Rubles and Crime Waves . . . . .	Editorial . . . . .	27
League to Combat a "Sunless Sunday" . . . . .	Anderson, A. N. . . . .	15	Sabbath Is as Immovable as Gibraltar, The . . . . .	Slade, Edwin K. . . . .	10
Lesson from Childish Lips, A . . . . .	Hiddleston, F. W. . . . .	33	Sabbath: Memorial, Sign, Bulwark, . . . . .	Price, Geo. M. . . . .	5
Lest We Forget—Preparedness . . . . .	Heald, Dr. G. H. . . . .	23	Protest, The . . . . .	Nichol, Francis D. . . . .	25-28
Let God Be True . . . . .	Thompson, Geo. B. . . . .	26	Sabbath Objections . . . . .	Balsbaugh, Henry . . . . .	32
Life or Death Ultimatum, A . . . . .	White, Stemple . . . . .	15	Sabbath of Creation Still Remains, The . . . . .	Hibbard, Emmet J. . . . .	23
Liquor Laws and Blue Laws . . . . .	Editorial . . . . .	35	Sabbath Renaissance, The . . . . .	Adams, Kay M. . . . .	8
Living One's Religion . . . . .	Editorial . . . . .	37	Sabbaths That Were Abolished, The . . . . .	Editorial . . . . .	15
Love in Action . . . . .	Pearce, Wm. P. . . . .	29	Satan Puts Agents in the Church . . . . .	Porter, Stanley W. . . . .	49
Love of Jesus, The . . . . .	Pearce, Wm. P. . . . .	12	Satan's School for Sinners . . . . .	Shuler, John L. . . . .	9
Mad over the Spirits . . . . .	Editorial . . . . .	15	Satan the Master Counterfeiter . . . . .	Pearce, Wm. P. . . . .	28
Magnet, Not a Club, A . . . . .	Editorial . . . . .	33	Sayings of Jesus on the Cross . . . . .	Bell, Alexander R. . . . .	17
Mandate of Evil, The . . . . .	Spalding, A. W. . . . .	21	Science Falsely So Called . . . . .	Editorial . . . . .	19
Man's Truest Friend . . . . .	Wells, Geo. W. . . . .	30	Scriptures in Chinese Phonetics, The . . . . .	Shuler, John L. . . . .	37
Man's Two Obligations . . . . .	Tefft, Byron E. . . . .	44	Sealing Men from Destruction . . . . .	Johnson, J. Berger . . . . .	34
Manner and Meaning of Baptism, The . . . . .	Johnson, J. Berger . . . . .	31	Search for Truth, The . . . . .	Editorial . . . . .	8
Mark of the Beast, The . . . . .	Shuler, John Lewis . . . . .	47	Searching Test, A . . . . .	Editorial . . . . .	44
Marks of Jesus, The . . . . .	Pearce, Wm. P. . . . .	30	Seat of Intolerance, The . . . . .	Johns, Varner J. . . . .	20
Martyrs of Jesus, The . . . . .	Pearce, Wm. P. . . . .	33	Second-Chance Delusion of Russellism, The . . . . .	Editorial . . . . .	31
May We Know the Truth? . . . . .	Westworth, W. A. . . . .	28	Secret of His Power, The . . . . .	Kuhnle, Christian . . . . .	41
Meaning of America's Crime Wave, The . . . . .	Cardey, Elmer L. . . . .	6	Secret of Moody's Power, The . . . . .	Beckner, Robert A. . . . .	7
Meaning of Famines, The . . . . .	Editorial . . . . .	34	Seeing God Through His Works . . . . .	Belleau, Wilfred E. . . . .	44
Memorial of Creation, The . . . . .	Lowe, J. W. . . . .	7	Self-Sufficiency . . . . .	Pearce, Wm. P. . . . .	9
Menace of Congested Population, The . . . . .	Kress, Dr. D. H. . . . .	8	Service of Jesus, The . . . . .	Hare, Robert . . . . .	18
Menace of Medievalism, The . . . . .	Nichol, Francis D. . . . .	10	Service (Poem) . . . . .	Shuler, John L. . . . .	3
Menace of Religious Intolerance, The . . . . .	Cottrell, Roy F. . . . .	43	Shall the Old-Time Sunday Blue Laws . . . . .	Editorial . . . . .	14
Men and Monkeys . . . . .	Editorial . . . . .	33	Be Revived? . . . . .	Porter, Stanley W. . . . .	14
Message of Reform, A . . . . .	Spalding, A. W. . . . .	45	Shall We Cease to Eat and Drink? . . . . .	Gilbert, A. C. . . . .	29
Mighty One, The . . . . .	Hilliard, E. . . . .	34	Shall We Languish in Prison? . . . . .	Editorial . . . . .	7
Mighty Wonders of the Infinitesimal, The . . . . .	Franks, Horace G. . . . .	13	Shall We Stage a Religious Farce? . . . . .	Editorial . . . . .	42
Militant Christians Needed . . . . .	Johnson, W. A. . . . .	46	Shall We Stand Against God? . . . . .	Wells, Geo. W. . . . .	18
Milk . . . . .	Heald, Dr. G. H. . . . .	3	Significance of Modern Immorality, The . . . . .	Editorial . . . . .	23
Millennium Is at Hand, The . . . . .	Haynes, Carlyle B. . . . .	1	Signs of Allegiance to Our Creator— . . . . .	Editorial . . . . .	23
Mind a Vital Factor, The . . . . .	Heald, Dr. G. H. . . . .	26	Sovereign . . . . .	Swift, Dr. Charles L. . . . .	46
Miners Living in Tents and Huts . . . . .	Editorial . . . . .	30	Silence of Jesus, The . . . . .	Johnson, W. A. . . . .	47
During Strike . . . . .	Thompson, Geo. B. . . . .	15	Simple Rules for Disease Prevention . . . . .	Rine, Geo. W. . . . .	25
Missing Link, The . . . . .	Cardey, E. L. . . . .	19	Sin Suppressed or Eradicated—Which? . . . . .	Nagel, Sherman A. . . . .	25
Money the Twentieth-Century God . . . . .	Crawford, B. E. . . . .	17	Skeptics, Can You Answer This? . . . . .	Editorial . . . . .	24
More Abundant Life, The . . . . .	Neilsen, N. P. . . . .	1	Sodom in the Shade . . . . .	Editorial . . . . .	27
More Than a Skeleton . . . . .	Editorial . . . . .	20	"Sole Promise of World Peace," The . . . . .	Shuler, John L. . . . .	29
More Than Conquerors . . . . .	Rowell, A. L. . . . .	49	Solid Facts and Senseless Fancies . . . . .	Editorial . . . . .	36
Must We Bolster Up the Gospel? . . . . .	Paddock, C. L. . . . .	41	Solid Reasons for Sabbath Keeping . . . . .	Kellogg, Chester E. . . . .	17
Must We Resort to Gas Masks? . . . . .	Cottrell, H. W. . . . .	9	Speed of the Age, The . . . . .	Reed, L. A. . . . .	19
My Conscience . . . . .	Adam, Ben . . . . .	36	Spiritism and Armageddon . . . . .	Haynes, Carlyle B. . . . .	13
My Soul's Examination . . . . .	Cortiss, J. O. . . . .	1-17, 21, 23, 24	Spiritism—A Precursor of Armageddon . . . . .	Yair, Archibald I. M. . . . .	15
Mystery of Divine Fellowship, The . . . . .	Reed, L. A. . . . .	29	Spiritism's Starless Midnight . . . . .	Talge, John H. . . . .	23
MacDonald—Defender of the Faith . . . . .	Thompson, Geo. B. . . . .	29	Spiritism the Zenith of Idolatry . . . . .	Editorial . . . . .	28
Needs No Props . . . . .	Lukens, M. . . . .	29	Spirit of the Blue Laws, The . . . . .	Spirits Cannot Supply It, The . . . . .	33
New Intensity of Hope, A . . . . .	Westworth, Wm. A. . . . .	1	Spirits, Spooks, and Séances Traced to . . . . .	Their Origin . . . . .	12
No Cause for Discouragement . . . . .	Spearing, Frederick A. . . . .	9	Stand True (Poem) . . . . .	Carey, Albert . . . . .	17
No End of Wonders . . . . .	Hagen, A. E. . . . .	12	Stars a Pledge of Eternity, The . . . . .	Hare, Robert . . . . .	45
No Man to Put Me into the Pool . . . . .	Editorial . . . . .	41	Statement of Belief, A . . . . .	Editorial . . . . .	25
No Political Sphere for the Church of . . . . .	Westworth, W. A. . . . .	43	Statement of Our Inquirer's Views, A . . . . .	Williams, J. E. . . . .	37
Christ . . . . .	Johnson, O. A. . . . .	6	Still Small Voice Speaks, The . . . . .	Shuler, John L. . . . .	7
No Time Lost . . . . .	Porter, Stanley W. . . . .	29	Storm-Proof Refuge, The . . . . .	Kuhnle, Christian . . . . .	33
Of What Is the Soul Composed? . . . . .	Kuhnle, Christian . . . . .	50	Story of Luther's Conversion, The . . . . .	Thompson, Geo. B. . . . .	44
Old Cobbler's Dream, The . . . . .	Hare, Robert . . . . .	25	Study the Original . . . . .	Anderson, A. N. . . . .	15
Old Songs, The (Poem) . . . . .	Anderson, A. N. . . . .	17	Stuffing the Goose . . . . .	Editorial . . . . .	34
"Omoto-Kyo"—The New Religion of Japan . . . . .	Editorial . . . . .	49	Stupidity of War, The . . . . .	Pearce, Wm. P. . . . .	27
One Form of Deceit . . . . .	Place, Albert E. . . . .	9	Sufferings of Jesus, The . . . . .	Caldwell, W. F. . . . .	47
One Source of Help . . . . .	Bell, Alexander R. . . . .	4	Supreme Freedom . . . . .	From, Leroy E. . . . .	23
One Way Out, The . . . . .	Wilcox, M. C. . . . .	7	Sweeping Toward the Crisis . . . . .	Editorial . . . . .	26
Only Lasting Peace, The . . . . .	Andross, Elmer E. . . . .	9	Swifter than Light . . . . .	Editorial . . . . .	39
Only One Solution for the World's Dilemma . . . . .	Editorial . . . . .	41	Talking to Mars . . . . .	Andross, Elmer E. . . . .	15
Origin of the Golden Rule, The . . . . .	Thompson, Geo. B. . . . .	3	Taming of an African Slave Raider, The . . . . .	Wirth, Wm. G. . . . .	13
Other Man, The . . . . .	Neilsen, Nels P. . . . .	33	Tampering with Immutable Law . . . . .	Anderson, A. N. . . . .	23
Our Father Knows (Poem) . . . . .	Williams, J. E. . . . .	26	Teacher Who Punished Himself, The . . . . .	Kress, Dr. Daniel H. . . . .	39
Our Inquirer's Views Restated . . . . .	Wirth, Wm. G. . . . .	35	Teeth and Health, The . . . . .	Westworth, W. A. . . . .	19
Our Seething Planet . . . . .	Vir Publishing Co. . . . .	41, 42, 44, 46	That "Same Jesus" . . . . .	Heald, Dr. G. H. . . . .	20
Out for Character . . . . .	Editorial . . . . .	49	That Tired Feeling . . . . .	Hagen, A. E. . . . .	11
Out-Scheming the Criminal . . . . .	Editorial . . . . .	40	That Which Doth Cost Me Nothing . . . . .	Gilbert, A. C. . . . .	31
Pagan England . . . . .	Bradley, Walter H. . . . .	40	There Is a Personal Devil . . . . .	Editorial . . . . .	20
Parable of the Camel . . . . .	Hilliard, E. . . . .	47	They Desire It Above Bread . . . . .	Hare, Robert . . . . .	38
Pardon of Men and God, The . . . . .	Walker, Allen . . . . .	35	Things Eternal (Poem) . . . . .	Caviness, Agnes Lewis . . . . .	2
Passport from This World to the Next, A . . . . .	Pearce, Wm. P. . . . .	6	Thoughtlessly Squandering . . . . .	Westworth, W. A. . . . .	36
Patriotism of Jesus, The . . . . .	Editorial . . . . .	31	Thousands Years of the Future, A . . . . .	Nichol, Francis D. . . . .	25-28
Paul and the Law . . . . .	Troy, Owen A. . . . .	48	"Thus Saith the Lord" on Sabbath . . . . .	Fulton, John E. . . . .	23
Pawnshop of Life, The . . . . .	Pearce, Wm. P. . . . .	31	Objections . . . . .	Kress, Dr. D. H. . . . .	35
Peace of Jesus, The . . . . .	Editorial . . . . .	31	Tiger of Revolt in India, The . . . . .	Kellogg, Chester E. . . . .	21
Peculiar Stumblers . . . . .	Shuler, J. L. . . . .	36	Tobacco a Man-Killer . . . . .	Editorial . . . . .	31
Personal Element in Salvation, The . . . . .	Pearce, Wm. P. . . . .	27	To-day Is Not To-morrow . . . . .	Thompson, Geo. B. . . . .	13
Philanthropy of Jesus, The . . . . .	Editorial . . . . .	27	To Display His Excellencies . . . . .	Thompson, Mabel Craker . . . . .	8
Phonograph Speaks Any Language . . . . .	Thompson, G. B. . . . .	25	Too Late . . . . .	Burg, Francis M. . . . .	29
Pillars of Government in Danger, The . . . . .	Maxwell, E. L. . . . .	5	Traveler, The (Poem) . . . . .	Pearce, Wm. P. . . . .	24
Pointed Paragraphs . . . . .	Gilbert, A. C. . . . .	41	Treasure in the Old Mine . . . . .	Pearce, Wm. P. . . . .	13
Portent of Wars and Famines, The . . . . .	Editorial . . . . .	39	Trial of Jesus, The . . . . .	Editorial . . . . .	40
Possibilities of Disarmament . . . . .	MacGuire, Meade . . . . .	42	Triumphs of Jesus, The . . . . .	Editorial . . . . .	37
Power of the Gospel . . . . .	Hare, Robert . . . . .	21	True Analysis of the Crime Wave, A . . . . .	McVagh, Charles F. . . . .	38
Prayer, A (Poem) . . . . .	Hare, Robert . . . . .	42	True Love the Secret . . . . .	Wells, Geo. W. . . . .	44
Prayer, A (Poem) . . . . .	Addis, Wm. H. . . . .	49	True Optimists . . . . .	Hare, Robert . . . . .	2
Praying for Our Daily Bread . . . . .	Johnson, J. Berger . . . . .	1	True Repentance—What Produces It? . . . . .	Hare, Robert . . . . .	49
Preaching Without a Message . . . . .	Pearce, Wm. P. . . . .	46	True Success (Poem) . . . . .	Richards, H. M. S. . . . .	11
Preeminence of Jesus, The . . . . .	Crawford, Byron E. . . . .	29	Trust On (Poem) . . . . .	Jones, O. E. . . . .	48
Preparing for the Future . . . . .	Editorial . . . . .	27	Two-Dollar Soul, A . . . . .	Andross, Mrs. E. E. . . . .	41
President and Sunday Golf, The . . . . .	Lippincott, Martha S. . . . .	39	Ultimate Fate of the Wicked, The . . . . .	Westworth, Wm. A. . . . .	39
Prince of Peace, The (Poem) . . . . .	Editorial . . . . .	37	Unbelief . . . . .	Thompson, Geo. B. . . . .	25
Privilege of Suffering, The . . . . .	Hare, Robert . . . . .	41	Union of the Divine and the Human . . . . .		
Promised Land, The (Poem) . . . . .			Universe to Be Cleansed of Sin, The . . . . .		



Unjust Doctrine, An	Belleau, Wilfred E.	43	Why Hark Back to the Go-Between of a Bygone Age?	Bradley, Walter H.	13
Utter Abandon	Holt, Chester A.	33	Why Men Will Be Lost	Gilbert, F. C.	4
Value of a Rock, The	Thompson, Geo. B.	28	Why Not Come All the Way?	Fulton, John E.	32
Value of Fruit, The	Editorial	30	Why Not Curb the Lust for Gold?	Editorial	35
Very Stones Cry Out, The	Dail, Guy	43	Why the World Is All Agog with Spiritism	Adams, Kay M.	21
Victory of Jesus	Pearce, Wm. P.	39	Why This Host of Wonders	Gilbert, A. C.	49
Vivid Picture, A	Editorial	46	Why View Sordid Realities?	Editorial	41
Watching an Infidel Die	Belleau, Geo. S.	42	Why Walk with a Heavy Bundle?	Thompson, Geo. E.	32
We Know when Christ Will Come	Cottrell, Roy F.	19	Widening Breach in the Industrial World, The	Hayward, Phil. C.	15
We Must Square Ourselves with Sinai	Thompson, Geo. B.	5	Will Christ Come Again?	Wirth, Wm. G.	45
"We Shall See Him as He Is"	Corliss, John O.	17	Will Every One See Christ Come?	Haynes, Carlyle B.	19
Web on the Wire, A	Thompson, Geo. B.	24	Will It Drive Them to Church?	Editorial	17
Weighed in Her Own Scales	Dail, Guy	27	Will Many or Few Be Saved?	Smith, Leon A.	47
What Are Protective Foods?	Heald, Dr. Geo. H.	25	Will the Spirits Invade Australia?	Franks, Horace G.	24
What Christ's Coming Means to Me	Pierce, Grace Adele	19	Will the World Disarm?	Editorial	23
What Day Is the Christian's Sabbath?	Rine, Geo. W.	5	Witness of a Nation, The	Cottrell, Roy F.	35
What Did Jesus Preach About?	Starr, Geo. B.	27	Wizard Age, The	Shuler, John L.	32
What Events Will Precede Christ's Coming?	Wilcox, M. C.	11	Woes Pronounced by Jesus, The	Pearce, Wm. P.	8
What God Requires of Me	Hayward, Phil. C.	50	Wonderful Christ, The	Yarnell, W. A.	35
What Is a Healthful System of Healing?	Miller, Dr. H. W.	21	Work	Moffitt, Luther L.	25
What Is Sanctification?	Cottrell, Roy F.	17	Work—A Christian Duty	Yair, Archibald I. M.	46
What Is Sin's Penalty?	Walker, Allen	30	Work Troubles and Disarmament	Editorial	48
What Is the Truth for To-day?	Boettcher, Julius T.	11	World Leprosy	Wells, Geo. W.	43
What Is True Christianity?	Shuler, John L.	35	World Needs the Book, The	Shuler, John L.	43
What Laws and Sheriffs Cannot Do	Editorial	11	World's Delirium of Militarism	Wirth, Wm. G.	25
What Missions Have Done for India	Fulton, J. E.	29	World's Indispensable Book, The	Cottrell, Roy F.	45
What Shall We Do on Sunday?	Wilcox, M. C.	36	World's Vanity Box, The	Wirth, Wm. G.	18
When Great Dream-Bubbles Burst	Franks, Horace G.	29	World Tour, A—England	Hall, H. H.	37
When Heaven Rejoices	Belleau, Geo. S.	11	World Tour, A—Switzerland	Hall, H. H.	38
Where Are the Dead?	Neilsen, Nels P.	45	World Tour, A—Germany	Hall, H. H.	39
Where to Find Him	Johnson, W. A.	49	World Tour, A—Scandinavia	Hall, H. H.	40
Which Day Shall We Keep as the Sabbath?	Shuler, John L.	45	World Tour, A—France	Hall, H. H.	41
White Lies	Belleau, W. E.	42	World Tour, A—India	Hall, H. H.	42
Whither Are We Drifting?	O'Neil, Maud E.	29	World Tour, A—Burma and Malaysia	Hall, H. H.	43
Whither Does the Pendulum of Civilization Swing?	Thurber, R. B.	19	World Tour, A—The Philippines	Hall, H. H.	44
Wholesale Holiness Impossible	Ice, Orva Lee	5	World Tour, A—China	Hall, H. H.	46
Who Originated Sunday Worship?	Stevens, Inez Hoiland	28	World Tour, A—Manchuria	Hall, H. H.	47
Who Said, "Only Young Men for War"?	Ice, Orva Lee	44	World Tour, A—Korea and Japan	Hall, H. H.	50
Why a Meatless Diet Is Best for the Body	Heald, Dr. Geo. H.	43	World Troubles and Their Solution	Editorial	18
Why Confuse the Ceremonial Sabbaths with God's Memorial Day?	Cottrell, H. W.	12	Would Destroy the Bigot	Editorial	27
Why God Gave the Sabbath	Nichol, Francis D.	31	Wrestling with Conviction	Editorial	29
			Wrong Idea, A	Gilbert, A. C.	34
			Zionism	Smith, Leon A.	41

## The Old Cobbler's Dream

(Continued from page 9)

had said a kind word; the little children at whom he smiled; and each one said to him in his turn, "Have you not seen me?"

"But who are you?" cried the shoemaker to all these apparitions.

Then the little child pointed to the Bible which was open on the table, and his finger showed the old man this passage: "Whosoever shall receive one of these little ones receiveth Me." "I was an hungred, and ye gave Me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave Me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took Me in. . . . Verily

I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these My brethren, ye have done it unto Me."

THE Dutch Government will rebuild and present to France the French city of Lens. Before the war Lens had 24,000 inhabitants.—*Dearborn Independent*.

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## The Pastor Was Skeptical

There is a beautiful story told of Bishop Simpson, the silver-tongued and devoted preacher of Methodism. He was traveling on horseback in the West. One Saturday night he came into a small backwoods town. The next day he attended church. As he approached the church, he met the pastor, who greeted the commonplace stranger, and according to custom, quizzed him as to his home and business. The bishop said he was a Methodist preacher. But the pastor was skeptical, and feared to ask him to preach. At last he said to himself: "I'll test him. I'll ask him to pray; if he does pretty well, then I'll let him preach."

The service began, and the stranger was invited to pray. Such a prayer had never before been heard in the backwoods church. The people were so stirred that they cried out, "Amen" and "Hallelujah." Convinced that the stranger could pray, the pastor invited him to preach. On rising to introduce him, the minister said to himself: "Did not this man say his name was Simpson? I believe it is our good and great Bishop Simpson. It must be—it is!" Without asking that his suspicion be verified, the country minister said: "Brethren, we have with us none other than our great Bishop Simpson. I know him by his prayer. He will now preach to us."



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AN ADVOCATE OF A WHOLE-SOULED BELIEF IN THE BIBLE AS THE VERY WORD OF GOD.

Edited by  
A. O. TAIT A. L. BAKER

# Signs of the Times

AMERICA'S PROPHETIC WEEKLY

CHAMPIONING THE PRINCIPLES OF THE PROTESTANT REFORMATION, EMPHASIZING FAITH IN CHRIST AS CREATOR AND REDEEMER, AND URGING A PREPARATION IN HEART AND LIFE FOR HIS IMMINENT SECOND COMING.

## Christ Scatters the Clouds

LOOKING in the wrong direction, is the attitude of the great mass of humanity at the present time. On every side and from every angle, we hear such doleful utterances as the following from James Davenport Whelpley, in the November 1 issue of the *Fortnightly Review*:

"Humanity is now merely drifting, living from hand to mouth day by day, closing its eyes to the next day to come for fear of new disasters. The world to-day is like a besieged garrison hoping to hold out until the enemy, a host of evil forces, exhausts itself. Every one acknowledges existing conditions, but no man, or group of men, in a position to be heard, has yet advanced a constructive plan of practical value and shown the courage to try to put it into effect."

If we look with mere human eyes upon our world to-day, with all its distressing and bewildering condition, the prospect is indeed a very dark one. But why look at these conditions from the weak, shortsighted, helpless attitude of the human, when Jesus has made it so clear in His Word that just such conditions would prevail immediately preceding His coming. And not only has He warned us of these conditions, but He has strewn His Word with rich promises, to fill us with the joys of the glorious hope of His soon coming.

When Jesus was here in person, doing His mighty teaching, did He not forewarn us that distress and perplexity among the nations would become so great as to cause men's hearts to faint for fear as they looked upon the things coming upon the world? The story is graphically recorded in the twenty-first chapter of Luke in the twentieth verse and onward; and not only did Jesus speak of these things in person when He was here, but through many of the prophets and apostles He has foretold, in striking utterance, just what we may expect in this world when His second coming is imminent.

Hundreds of years before the time that he appeared in Palestine, the Saviour inspired Zephaniah, when writing of the great day of the Lord, to forewarn us of the mighty men that would be crying bitterly, and of the distress that would be brought upon the world because of the sins of the people. Read the story in the first chapter of the prophecy of Zephaniah. But these present-day world conditions, so impressively foretold by the prophet, do not have a depressing, harrowing influence upon the mind if we are in possession of a personal, living experience in Christ, and know His power to forgive sins.

Our heavenly Father stands ready to-day to reveal Himself in all His consol-

ing, mighty power through Jesus Christ so that we may know Him as our personal Saviour, our Protector, and our Friend. And there are none of the dark clouds that are rising over the world to-day but may be dispelled from each and every heart by this wonderful knowledge. Jesus is yearning to plant the great banner of His love in every heart; and while fear has punishment and torment, our Christ inspired this same apostle John to say to us, "There is no fear in love: but perfect love casteth out fear." 1 John 4:18.

This world will never be able to solve its problems; but Jesus has them already solved for us if we will but accept Him. Every problem and every difficulty, every harrowing perplexity, will be dissolved

sin is becoming more strongly entrenched in the world with each succeeding generation; and no matter what seeming progress we may make in education or science, yet the conquest of the world by sin outweighs any material progress that may be made. The increase or the decrease of sin is the world's barometer of progress or retrogression.

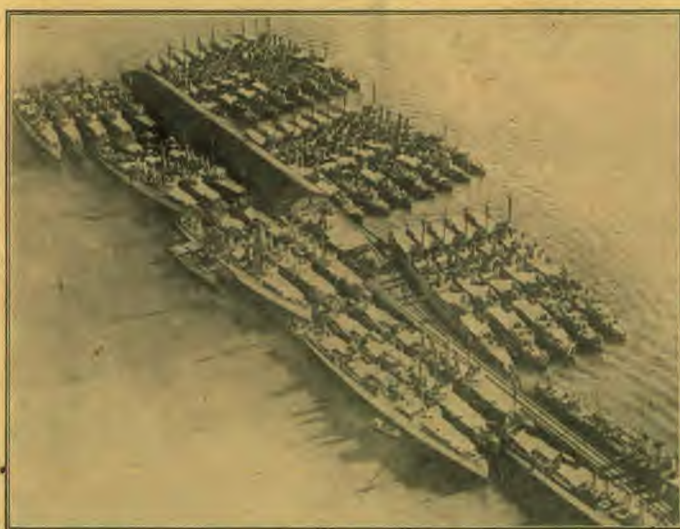
Because of this view, we are characterized by many as "confirmed pessimists;" and those who so denominate us, seek to convey the impression that it is only because of our interpretation of the Bible that we take this view,—that we have evolved some peculiar hypothesis from distorted Bible texts, and are seeking to justify this hypothesis by construing current events and tendencies to

our end. We are giving a quotation here, however, from one who is not a religionist and who does not have a theory to substantiate, but who merely sees the world as it is, and so reports it. Robert Briffault writes the following in *Living Age*:

"The world is suffering to-day—more profoundly perhaps than at any previous period in history. It is not to mere physical misery, to hunger and pain, to the drawn faces and starving children of Central Europe, that I refer. Despite the dislocation and dilapidation of our civilized order, there is probably no epoch of the past that could not have shown a larger quantum of physical suffering than the present. Ours is a deeper suffering, a more searching sickness. It is not in any

single aspect of our present world that it is manifested, but in all; the town and the street evince the signs of the same malady as the map and the mob. Our international political situation is chaos beyond the dreams of confusion; our social situation is a rumbling volcano spreading broadcast panic; our economic situation is desperate; our ethics are in dissolution, morality is nonexistent, crime is epidemic; the family, 'the foundation of society,' waits in queues at the doors of the divorce court. In our very hearts is a blank lethargy that has passed beyond emotional despair; our art, our literature, reflect it in their impotence, and are economically crushed by the indifference of a joyless world. Our very pleasures, our luxury and revelry, testify in the recklessness of their attempt to drown it in excitement and noise, to the sickness that weighs upon our vitals."

The trouble with us to-day is that we are endeavoring to save ourselves and our complex world situation through our own wisdom. The world as a whole has forgotten God, and this very forgetting is the cause of our distresses. Salvation will not come until we call upon God for succor.



International  
Thirty-six destroyers tied alongside one another at the port of San Diego. Their total value is \$54,000,000.

by the brightness of His glorious appearing in the day that is so soon to break upon us.

Get ready for that sublime event, for it is hastening on with irresistible power.

## Whence Cometh Help?

MANY are the letters we have received, and many are the comments in the press, to the effect that our present distresses are in the main the fruit of the World War. We are assured that once we find our feet again, everything will be peaches and cream. Of course such a view is at variance with the stand that this periodical has taken; namely, that the ills which are so acute in the world to-day may have been intensified by the late war, but that they would not disappear with the war.

We believe there is a strong undercurrent toward retrogression, that is running stronger and stronger as the years pass by; that although this current may be stronger at one time, due to local circumstances such as a great war, and at another time may be somewhat less, yet it is always moving, and increasingly so, toward the wrong. We believe that